

Wesley Grove Messenger

February 2014

Dates to Remember

Saturday, February 1
Special Needs
Cartoon Fest 5:00–8:00 PM
Wednesday, February 5
Choir.....7:00 PM
Monday, February 10
Admin. Council.....7:30 PM
Wednesday, February 12
Choir.....7:00 PM
Saturday, February 15
International Pot Luck6:00 PM
Sunday, February 16
Coffee & Conversation.....NOON
UMY Bowling2:00 PM
Monday, February 17
Presidents' Day Office Closed
UMM Breakfast 8:00 AM
Tuesday, February 18
Newsletter Deadline.....NOON
Wednesday, February 19
Ladies Lunch OutNOON
Choir.....7:00 PM
Missions Committee.....7:30 PM
Monday, February 24
Finance Committee7:30 PM
Tuesday, February 25
Board of Trustees.....7:30 PM
Wednesday, February 26
Choir.....7:00 PM

From the Pastor's Desk

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." (John 21:15-17)

It is snowing and cold again. A couple of weeks ago we had record low temperatures from the polar vortex. I am getting tired of Old Man Winter and wish he would go away. As I sit here, in my warm home, on a comfortable chair, my daughter is sleeping in the bedroom below me. She worked last night (and many nights) to make sure her homeless are in shelters where they can be warm and safe. She knows who is to be in each shelter and when one is missing, someone goes out and searches for them: *"Tend my sheep."*

The city homeless are luckier (if you can use that word to describe a homeless person) than those in the suburbs. The city has more organizations (although still not enough) like the one Tricia works for who know and care for their homeless than the suburbs have. Now, before you think, well if they got a job, they could afford a place to live, let me tell you, a good many of the men in D.C. shelters work 60+ hours a week. Some even work for organizations that we would think offer good paying jobs, jobs that would allow one to support one's self. Unfortunately, however, that is not the case.

(Continued on page 3)

Lectionary Readings

February 2, 2014

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

I Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

February 2, 2014

The Presentation of the Lord, or Candlemas

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 24

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

February 9, 2014

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Scouting Sunday

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)

Psalm 112:1-10

I Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)

Matthew 5:13-20

February 16, 2014

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 119:1-8

I Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-37

February 23, 2014

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Psalm 119:33-40

I Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

Matthew 5:38-48

Play Ball!

Anyone interested in advertising in *The Messenger* during 2014, please contact Jim Kemp at (301) 253-2859. Proceeds go to benefit the ballfield fund.

Trustees Committee

Andi Brickman, Chair

Reminder to all committee chairs

Please submit your 2014 meeting schedule to Andi Brickman by February 7, 2014. This will allow us to ensure your committee books its preferred date and time in our Education Building.

Thank you!

February Birthdays

1 Barbara Kunkle	14 Joel Ketchum
2 Ellen Fronzoli	19 Pam Vestal
9 Namela Miller	22 Andi Brickman
13 Daniel Hottinger	Shelby Kepner
	23 Stephen Lewis

Education Committee

Tammy Monarch, Chair

Mark your calendars now for the week of June 23. We will once again hold VBS in the evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. This year's theme will be "God's Unique Creatures in the Rainforest." Please begin saving fake green, trees, flowers, vines, and animals. We could also use any old, green umbrellas (broken or not) as well as black lights.

(Continued from page 1)

Too many jobs pay less than a livable wage. The federal minimum wage rate is \$7.25 and has remained the same since it was last re-set on July 24, 2009. Minimum wage is not a livable wage. A worker who earns the minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour and works a 40-hour week, earns, **before** taxes, \$290, which is a whopping \$15,080 a year. According to the Federal Poverty Level Guidelines, the poverty level for one person is \$11,490 and for a two-person family, \$15,510.

Many minimum wage workers are the breadwinners for their families: "*Feed my lambs.*" How can anyone feed a family on minimum wage? A person working a minimum wage job would need to work **four** jobs just to be able to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Montgomery County: HUD Fair Market Rent amount is \$1,412 per month for a two-bedroom apartment. Montgomery County's high cost of housing is a significant barrier to preventing and ending Montgomery County's homeless problem. And let's not forget about food, utilities, and health care.

Many people are not homeless because they are lazy or they do not work. And many of the homeless are not on the street corners: *A second time he said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"* Some families are one paycheck away from being homeless.

Homelessness is not just an inner-city problem. According to the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH), 1,004 individuals living in Montgomery County in 2013 are homeless and one out of every 100 Montgomery County elementary school children lives in a tent,

a car, on the streets, or in abandoned buildings. Homelessness is here in Montgomery County. These figures are estimates and the number of homeless may very well be much higher than reported.

So what are we to do about it? *[Jesus] said to [Peter] the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" ... And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."* Are we to give to everyone on the street corner? After all, we know there are some people on the street corners who truly are working scams on the driving public. How can you tell them apart from those who are in need? Tricia's sage advice is to look at their shoes. The condition of the shoes tells a lot. For me, I carry around Target gift cards and when I see a homeless person, I pray, "Lord, is this one you want me to help?" I know immediately when God wants me to give a card. It is an overpowering feeling of *yes*. However, God does not tell me to give a card to everyone I see on a street corner. God went almost a year before giving me a resounding *yes*. I also know of a person who carries "goodie bags" with her on the Metro. Each bag is filled with a bottle of water, an apple or other fruit, and a nutritional, sugar-free snack. (What we often do not realize is that many homeless are also diabetic.) Even if what we do is only a drop in the homeless bucket, can't we do something to help? *"Do you love me? ... Feed my sheep."*

Now to end where I started ...

Jesus said to [Wesley Grove UMC], "[Wesley Grove, church of the United Methodist], do you love me more than these?" We said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that we love you." Jesus said to [us], "Feed my lambs" ... "Tend my sheep" ... "Feed my sheep."

December Report

Rick Monarch, Treasurer

Christian Fellowship News

Becky Lewis, Chair

Tired of winter's chill and snow? How about a trip around the world to relieve the doldrums? You can do that and still sleep in your own bed if you attend the International Pot Luck scheduled for Saturday, February 15, at 6 p.m. at the home of Bob and Cathy Burke, 3133 Will-Mill Terrace in Monrovia. Sign up in the Greeting Room and get out that exotic recipe you've been meaning to try!

Coffee and Conversation for February takes place on the following day, Sunday, February 16. Namela and Frank Miller, and Susan and Josh Park, will host. Host families are needed for March, September, and November; please let Becky Lewis know if you can take one of those months.

After the treats are gone, Carol Stone plans to take the UMY on a bowling outing to Mt. Airy Duckpin Lanes at 2 p.m. (tentative). Inclement weather date for the bowling outing will be March 16.

Another event with a snow date is the Special Needs Saturday Evening Cartoonfest, scheduled for Saturday, February 1 from 5 to 8 p.m. We'll lounge around in our sweats or pj's and watch cartoons, followed by "breakfast for dinner." If you can help, please let Becky know. In the event of bad weather, the event will take place on Saturday, February 22.

Also on the schedule for February, the Daytime Circle will gather for a Brown Bag Lunch on Wednesday, February 5, at 12:30 p.m. in the Education Building; Ladies Lunch Out will take place on Wednesday, February 19 (listen for the location in *(Continued on page 7)*)

Expenses	
Apportionments	\$1,586.08
Pastor's Salary	\$1,622.84
Pastor's Benefits	\$851.09
Housing Allowance	\$813.92
Church Secretary's Salary	\$640.63
Payroll Taxes	\$41.32
Grass/Snow Removal	\$1,170.00
Custodian's Salary	\$460.00
Programs	\$1,302.07
Office Expenses	\$641.29
Trustees - Maintenance	\$1,689.48
Miscellaneous Adjustment	-\$138.08
Total Expenses	\$10,680.64

Income	
Weekly Collections	\$8,597.29
Cell Tower - Sprint	\$1,661.08
Cell Tower - Verizon	\$1,238.06
Grocery eScrips	\$0.00
Dinner Profits - Turkey & Oyster	\$3,500.00
Use of Hall	\$200.00
Interest Income	\$9.86
Total Income	\$15,206.29
December 1, 2013 Checkbook Balance	\$23,630.06
December 31, 2013 Checkbook Balance	\$28,155.71

FEBRUARY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Special Needs Cartoon Fest 5:00 - 8:00 PM
2 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship (Communion)	3	4 6:45 PM Lions Club	5 7:00 PM Choir	6	7	8
9 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	10 7:30 PM Admin. Council	11	12 7:00 PM Choir	13	14	15 6:00 PM Interna- tional Pot Luck @ Burkes' home
16 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Coffee & Conversation 2:00 PM Bowling	17 OFFICE CLOSED Presidents Day 8:00 AM UMM Breakfast @ Tom & Ray's	18 NOON Newsletter Deadline 6:45 PM Lions Club	19 12:00 PM Ladies Lunch Out 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM Missions Committee	20	21	22
23 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	24 7:30 PM Finance Committee	25 7:30 PM Board of Trustees	26 7:00 PM Choir	27	28	

Administrative Council Meeting

January 13, 2014

In attendance: Pastor Linda Yarrow, Mike Sherwood, Rick Monarch, Doug Gaither, Becky Lewis, Jim Kemp, Jackie Hottinger, Andi Brickman, Scott Iles, Tammy Monarch, Lewis Burdette, Judy Hughes, Paul Eisenhaur, Charlie Stone, Ollie Gray, Jo Ann True, Tricia Yarrow

Devotional – Becky Lewis shared a reading from the New Guideposts Christmas Treasury.

Good News Items: The Special Needs Christmas event was a huge success and very well attended (spectacular North Pole effects) with wonderful help from the combined up-county youth group middle schoolers, Christmas Cantata was attended by more than 200 people with wonderful music and message, Missions spread God's love with the Jesse Tree and food baskets campaigns plus a collection of items for Pleasant View Nursing Home (delivered with caroling and cookies), the children's program at the Christmas Eve service was wonderful, and the memorial services for JD Morris, Frank Johnson, Barbara Hines, and Tommy Ward were well supported and attendees, well fed.

Action Items: Rick Monarch made a motion to accept the November 11, 2013, minutes as amended and published, Paul Eisenhaur seconded, vote taken and approved as written.

Committee Reports

Finance – Jim Kemp: Thank you to everyone who made an effort to keep their spending down the last year. The last six months of the year finances were "okay."

Missions – Jackie Hottinger: We are currently collecting snacks and drinks for the Rock

the House afterschool program and will discuss the conference's "No More Malaria" campaign at our February meeting.

Christian Outreach– Jo Ann True: Have scheduled five activities for 2014 that were our successful ones from the past year.

Education – Tammy Monarch: We continue to have a vibrant and well-attended Sunday School. VBS dates are to be determined.

Trustees – Andi Brickman: In early December, someone burned the portable toilet to the ground and also caused some damage to the flagpole fence.

SPRC – Ollie Gray: The Conference is sponsoring a leadership seminar in May on "How to Reach New People." Pastor Linda and Mike Sherwood would be interested in attending.

Kudos from the Chairman of the Board: We had a memorial service/luncheon for Frank Johnson and a dinner for the Damascus Senior Farmers on Saturday, January 11, which really necessitated a maximum performance from the kitchen staff and other volunteers. Thanks to all who worked, cooked, and provided food, helping make a very long day a success.

New Business: The Office Manager will be tasked with changing the signboards for funerals and weddings.

Devotions for next meeting will be Jo Ann True.

Next meeting will be Monday, February 10, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with a prayer from Pastor Linda at 8:58 p.m.

(Continued from page 4)

church and the UMM will meet at Tom & Ray's for breakfast on Presidents' Day, Monday, February 17, at 8 a.m.

And a quick peek ahead to March shows that our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner will move to Wednesday, March 5, due to a conflict with Lions Club; serving will run from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Also, Rick and Tammy Monarch will host a Games Night on Saturday, March 15, at 7 p.m. Bring an appetizer, snack, or dessert to share, and any games you have that you think others might enjoy. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Greeting Room as the date gets closer.

The committee met on January 23 to draft the calendar for the remainder of the year, which follows. Get out your own calendars and start marking dates; we plan to keep you busy with plenty of Food, Fun, and Fellowship!

February

- 1-Special Needs Saturday Evening Cartoonfest, 5 p.m.
- 5-Daytime Circle Brown Bag, 12:30 p.m.
- 15-International Pot Luck, 6 p.m.
- 16-Coffee & Conversation, hosts Frank & Namela Miller, Susan & Josh Park
UMY Bowling, 2 p.m. (tentative; snow date 3/16)
- 17-UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
- 19-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.

March

- 5-Daytime Circle Brown Bag, 12:30 p.m.
Shrove "Wednesday" Pancake Dinner, 5:30-7 p.m.
- 15-Games Night, Monarch home, 7 p.m.
- 16-Coffee & Conversation, hosts TBD
- 19-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.

April

- 2-Daytime Circle Brown Bag, 12:30 p.m.
- 6-Balloting for Woman and Man of Year begins
- 12-UMM Spring Cleanup Day, 8 a.m.-noon
- 16-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.
- 20-Sunrise Service Breakfast, following worship
(No Coffee & Conversation)

May

- 7-Daytime Circle Brown Bag, 12:30 p.m.
- 9-Spring Yard Sale Setup, 7 p.m.
- 10-Spring Yard Sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 11-Mothers' Day Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.; Mothers' Day/Woman of the Year recognition during service

- 18-Spring Potluck, following worship
UMY Mini Golf, 2 p.m. (No Coffee & Conversation)
- 21-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.

June

- 4-Daytime Circle Salad Luncheon, 12 p.m.
- 8-Coffee and Conversation (Education Sunday), hosts Bob & Cathy Burke
- 15-Fathers' Day Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.; Fathers' Day/Man of the Year recognition during service
- 14-Special Needs Games and Pizza Night
- 18-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.

July

- 13-Outdoor Worship and Charge Picnic, 10 a.m.
- 16-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.
(No Coffee & Conversation)

August

- 17-Coffee & Conversation, hosts Charlie & Carol Stone
- 20-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.

September

- 3-Daytime Circle Brown Bag, 12:30 pm.
- 7-Fall Potluck and 90th birthday celebration for Lanny Williams, following service
- 12-Fall Yard Sale Setup, 7 p.m.
- 13-Fall Yard Sale, 9 a.m.-2p.m.
- 17-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.
- 21-Coffee & Conversation, hosts TBD

October

- 1-Daytime Circle Brown Bag, 12:30 p.m.
- 13-UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
- 19-UMY Crop Walk and Soup Sunday or Outdoor Lunch (depending on weather; No Coffee & Conversation)
- 22-Ladies Lunch Out, 12 p.m.

November

- 5-Daytime Circle Brown Bag, 12:30 p.m.
- 8-UMM Fall Cleanup Day, 8 a.m.-noon
- 11-UMM Breakfast, 8 a.m.
- 20-Bazaar Setup, 7 p.m.
- 21-Bazaar Setup, 11 a.m.
- 22-Bazaar, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 23-Coffee & Conversation, host TBD

December

- 3-Daytime Circle Lunch at Barbara Fritchie, 12 p.m. (serving time 12:30 p.m.)
- 6-Special Needs/Community Meet and Greet with Santa, 2-5 p.m.
UMY/Sunday School Holiday Party, 6 p.m.
- 21-Caroling and Dinner, 4 p.m.

(Evening Circle/UMM Holiday Gathering, date TBD; No Coffee & Conversation, no Ladies Lunch Out)

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