

# March St. Mark's 2009 Newsletter



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## THE GREEN CORNER

### REDUCE-REUSE-RECYCLE

Plastic is almost always the product of petroleum, a nonrenewable resource. Blount County offers Mixed Plastic (1-7) drop-offs which means you don't have to sort it, just be sure it is clean. The only thing not allowed is Styrofoam. Some of the items recyclable are: soda and water bottles, oven-ready meal trays, milk and detergent bottles, grocery/trash/retail bags, plastic food wrap, plastic pipe, dry cleaning and produce bags, medicine bottles, aerosol caps, drinking straws, ketchup bottles, yogurt, butter, sour cream containers, plastic cutlery and plastic disposable cups.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The District UMW held their New Vision Event at Camp Wesley Woods with the director, David Leach, as the speaker. Three of our members attended. It was interesting to hear stories of the beginning of the camp and how it has been changing lives for the last 50 years. Last year there were over 10,000 people of all ages who took advantage of the year-round facilities.

In March we will observe our special program, 'A Call to Prayer and Self Denial'. Sarah Sowders will be in charge of the program.

The UMW meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the church. We invite ladies of the church to meet with us. The purpose of the UMW is to know God and to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of missions through ministries of the church.

The UMW has note cards available for purchase with the church picture on them. They are \$5.00.



## Look who's having a Birthday!

- March 1 Debbie Walsh  
Dalee Long
- March 2 Sharon Marcus  
Ernie Tracy
- March 8 Robinson Walsh  
Kathy McCammon
- March 9 Rebecca Pack
- March 14 Reuben Hatcher
- March 16 Kim Knott
- March 17 Deloris Brown  
Zola Burns
- March 22 Francis Smith
- March 31 Betty Horton

## DAY WITH THE BISHOP

The United Methodist Men and all men of the congregation are invited to a day with our Bishop, James Swanson, Sr., on Saturday, March 21st from 9:00am-2:00pm at Shady Grove UMC in Dandridge, Tenn. If you are interested in attending and would like to car pool, please contact Pastor Larry or the church office.

## COMPASSIONATE CARE SUNDAY

We will be introducing a new ministry to the church, Compassionate Care, on Sunday, March 8 at both services. You will have an opportunity to commit to one of eight Compassionate Care groups. It is an opportunity to help put many of the things we are already doing in the church into one main ministry (outreach).

### THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

This past Wednesday (Ash Wednesday) marked the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent that goes to Easter Sunday, April 12th. On Ash Wednesday persons had the opportunity to be marked with ashes on their forehead in the form of a cross as a sign of repentance and desiring to stay focused on the Lord and the leading of His Holy Spirit in our lives through the 40+ days of Lent.

Our main emphasis of Lent is on the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross of Calvary for man's sins and what it meant for Him to become the 'Perfect Lamb of God' to be slain for man's sins, so that God would accept the perfect sacrifice of His son for man's sins, physical death and the grave could be defeated once and for all through His death and resurrection.

Please read below many of the special services and activities being planned for you throughout Lent and realize we'll get out of the Lenten season to the depth of commitment we're willing to make to it. I also hope that you'll consider 'giving up' and 'taking on' something during Lent that can strengthen you in your Christian walk for the Lord.

Welcome to the Holy Season of Lent. God bless each one.

Larry

P.S. Think about it: are you and I truly satisfied with our depth of commitment to the Lord and His church?

### FAITH-SHARING WORKSHOP WITH RAY PETTY

One of our former pastors, Rev. Ray Petty, will be leading us in a Faith-Sharing Workshop on Sunday-Tuesday, March 1-3. We will begin on Sunday morning as he preaches at both worship services and helps introduce us to the importance of faith sharing in the life and ministry of the church. The Sunday thru Tuesday evening session will begin at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall. We plan to have child care available for those who desire it. Please put this event on your prayer list and come and join us in a special time of learning how to be an effective faith sharer with others.

### MARCH MESSAGES

March 1 - "***A Faith Worth Sharing - A Transforming Message***"

Rev. Ray Petty, Guest Speaker - Luke 24:28-35

Theme: Rev. Petty, a former pastor of St. Mark's UMC, will be preparing us for a workshop that he will lead at St. Mark's Sunday - Tuesday evening.

March 8 - "***A Compassionate Spirit***"

Luke 10:25, 30-37

Theme: One of the greatest qualities that Jesus had was a very caring, compassionate spirit for all persons.

March 15 - "***Why Come To The Lord's Table?***"

Matthew 26:17-19

Theme: Why would Jesus entrust the Lord's Supper to His followers and His church?

March 22 - "***That First Holy Week***"

Matthew 21:8-11

Theme: So much happened during the first Holy week from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem to His glorious resurrection.

March 29 - 10:00 a.m. - "***Singing Sunday***"

11:00 a.m. - Message by Charles Stewart

St. Mark's  
United  
Methodist  
Church  
2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i></p> <p>Food Connection</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>6:30 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>10:00 Bible Study</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>10:00 UMW 3-5 F.L.A.G. 5-6:30 Wed. Evening Meal 5:30 Youth</p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><i>March Forth for Children at Cokesbury Center</i></p> </div>	<p><i>7</i></p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p><b>WORKSHOP WITH RAY PETTY</b></p> </div>						
<p><i>8</i></p> <p>5:00 Administrative Council</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Begins</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>6:30 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>10:00 Bible Study</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>3-5 F.L.A.G. 5-6:30 Wed. Evening Meal 5:30 Youth</p>	<p><i>12</i></p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p><i>Prime Time Seniors</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p>
<p><i>15</i></p> 	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>6:30 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>10:00 Bible Study</p> 	<p><i>18</i></p> <p><i>Spring Break- No Wednesday Activities</i></p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>9am-2pm <i>A Day With The Bishop at Shady Grove UMC, Dandridge</i></p>
<p><i>22</i></p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>6:30 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>10:00 Bible Study</p> <p><i>April Newsletter Deadline</i></p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>3-5 F.L.A.G. 5-6:30 Wed. Evening Meal 5:30 Youth</p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p>
<p><i>29</i></p>  <p><i>Singing Sunday</i></p>	<p><i>30</i></p> <p>6:30 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>10:00 Bible Study</p>				



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*Worship With Us*

The **HEARING & SPEECH FOUNDATION** is currently accepting donations of used hearing aids - working or not. If you have an old hearing aid you would like to contribute, please contact Linda Lamb at 997-0981 or 982-8330.



In an effort to cut back on expenses this year, we are depending on volunteers to mow and take care of the church grounds. There is a chart on the bulletin board outside the choir room to sign up if you would like to help.



The church Library Committee consisting of Charlene Smith, Margie DeVault, Mary Prater, Myrtle Rorex and Martha VanHoozier, has been hard at work rearranging and organizing the church library. The library is located in the Wesley Sunday School classroom, next to the Fellowship Hall. We hope you will stop by and see what the library has to offer. A committee member or volunteer will be available on Wednesday evenings to assist you, if needed. If you would like to volunteer to help in the library, please see any committee member.

The 'Upper Room' devotional magazines are available in the Narthex to anyone who would like one.

Special thanks to Pam Byrd, Jeannie Shutt, Madge Hearon and Lana Branson for painting and decorating the area as you enter the main sanctuary.



**COMPASSIONATE CARE MINISTRY**

Prayer At The Beginning Of The Day  
 Inviting God's Intervention In Our Lives

*Loving Teacher, come and make your home in our hearts this day. Dwell within us all day long and save us from error or foolish ways. Teach us today to do no harm, to do good, and assist us so that we may stay in a loving relationship with you and our neighbor. Help us today to be an answer to another's prayer so that we may be one of your signs of hope in the world you love.*

'Three Simple Rules' by Rueben P. Job

In January, Communion was given to those whose health keep them from church. What a blessing we received from these friends.

Baby gift bags consisting of a child's Bible, a bookmark, lotion and baby wipes were taken to new babies and their parents. Items have been bought to make gift bags for those in the hospital, assisted living and nursing homes.

Compassionate Music Ministry sang for Lib Campbell and Elsie Murphy at Morning View. Traveling to Wellington Place, songs were sung for Leona Jenkins and others. They went to Asbury Place where they sang to Enzel Drake and friends. What a blessing! Thank you, Donna and choir.