

The Messenger

A publication of
Southern Hills
United Methodist Church
2356 Harrodsburg Rd.
Lexington, Ky 40503

February 2010

From the Senior Pastor:

“24 HOURS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD”

The traditional season of Lent will begin on February 17 with an **Ash Wednesday** observance, as we prepare our hearts to contemplate the passion and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. Come and Go Communion will be served in the Sanctuary from 7 a.m until 1 p.m. There will be a service that night for the imposition of ashes at 6:30 p.m.

We will offer **Taize Worship Services** in the Lenten season, on six Thursday nights beginning February 18 at 6:30 p.m. These services have been well received at Southern Hills in recent years. The quiet, worshipful services are built around liturgy, prayer and a body of songs and music accompanied by guitar and flute. The origin of this form of worship is the Taize Community, a Protestant group in France.

The sermons for Lent will draw inspiration from a book by Adam Hamilton called *24 Hours that Changed the World*, which follows Jesus through the momentous events that led Him to the cross. In keeping with our Book Club experience, I invite you to read the book along with me. It will be available at Cokesbury or on Amazon.com. Here are the messages that will be presented:

- February 21- “At the Lord’s Table”, Mark 14:12, 22-25
- February 28- “Honest Prayer in the Garden”, Mark 14:32-42
- March 7- “On Trial”, Mark 14:53-65
- March 14- “Before Pilate”, Mark 15:1-15
- March 21- “The Way of Sorrows”, Mark 15:15b-23
- March 28- Palm Sunday- “The Ultimate Sacrifice”, Mark 15:25-39

We usually think of Lent as a time to give up things. But let me encourage you to consider adding some things in this season, such as participation in the special services being offered. Also, please prayerfully consider how you can give time and donations to help relieve the incredible suffering of the people of Haiti. Send or bring a check to the church simply marked “Haiti.” You can also join those who are packing and collecting Health Kits. Our United Methodist Women have already shipped 55 kits to the United Methodist Committee on Relief’s Sanger Brown facility in Louisiana.

As we journey to the cross in these 40 days of Lent, I invite you to pray this prayer called “The Prayer of the Nails”:

Lord Jesus, I have joined my cross to Yours. As we together carry this burden of mine may I come to know the love of the Father who sent you to redeem me.

Help me look forward in hope to the time of my resurrection. During this time of Lent let my hands touch those who need healing; let my eyes see the fear behind the masks of confidence or indifference; let my ears be opened to the cries of the poor; and let my heart be filled with joy knowing that Your death and resurrection have won everlasting life for us all.

I ask this in Your name who, with the Father and Spirit is one God forever and ever. Amen.

Still in One Peace,
Bill

Serve in Love ~ Rev. Dennis Burrows

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.



Super Bowl "Souper Bowl"

At the request of God's Pantry Food Bank, Southern Hills invites you to bring canned goods on February 7th for our Souper Bowl Celebration. Since that is a Communion Sunday, please place the food under the windows in the back of the Sanctuary.

God's Pantry also welcomes cash donations. Make your check payable to Southern Hills and mark it "Souper Bowl."

Spiritual Renewal

On February 20, there will be a Lexington District Time of Spiritual Renewal, "Listening as We Journey Together" at Wesley Village. It will be from 9 a.m. to 12 noon with registration beginning at 8:30. Lunch will be \$10.00 for those who want to stay. Please register by February 6.

FAITH – AWESOME FAITH

If we begin the New Year as encouraged by the Health and Wellness Ministry, we will be more active individuals. Recently, I was sitting alone with my faithful dog by my side, attempting to decide what activity I would select and cat napping in the process. Awaking from one of these naps, a statement on faith that I had read many years ago was vividly on my mind. This statement was

*"Faith sees the invisible
Believes the incredible and
Receives the impossible".*

It left with me the same impression as in years past, how I would love to strengthen and increase my faith. One must have faith in every aspect of their life to face whatever new challenge awaits them – even becoming more active. I was just reading an article that actually noted evidence was growing as to the value faith-based organizations were offering to people with mental illness as well as other types of illness. A view of that community was a person's faith was like a rainbow, coming in many different colors each unique and special. What an encouraging beginning to a New Year, having faith acknowledged as a powerful instrument in our lives. The Health and Wellness Ministry would like to wish each and everyone a healthy, active and faith based 2010.

Volunteer in Mission Work Teams

Some have expressed an interest in going to Haiti when the opportunity opens up to Volunteer In Mission Work Teams. If you would like to sign up to go, the website is www.umvim.org. Mid March will be the earliest any teams will be going.

Ash Wednesday

Come and go communion will be served from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Worship service will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

FaithWalk Classes 101 and 201

February 21
4 to 7 p.m.

Taize Worship Service

begins February 18 at 6:30 p.m. and will continue on Thursday evenings for six weeks.

Pray for Paul and Marty Law - Missionaries to the Congo



The Mason and Newman families wish to express their gratitude for all the support of love and sympathy in the passing of Debbie Mason. The church, the Ministers, the United Methodist Women and Martha's Hands were most wonderful.

Bob Mason and family

We are truly grateful for the many acts of kindness from the members of Southern Hills to our family during Virginia's illness. We are in awe of your expressions of Christ's love towards Virginia. The meals, visits and prayers were always a blessing and an encouragement to all of us. Reflecting on our wonderful support during the visitation and funeral, we are reminded of the great compassion of our Lord and His church in time of need. We wish you His blessing this New Year!

The Family of H. Dale Blythe

My thanks to all my friends who showered me with birthday cards on December 23, 2009. Some 60% of the cards were encouraging and very nice. About 30% were funny and insulting my "advancing age." 100% were appreciated more than you will know.

Rev. Dennis Burrows

Methodist Men Say Thanks!

The Methodist Men would like to thank the Southern Hills Family and Hart's Cleaners for making the Myron Beal Toy Project a success again this year. We collected and delivered over \$2,500 in toys and clothing and 200+ winter coats from Hart's. The families at the Joy Center are very appreciative of the support from our church and sent their love.

Thanks is in order to the Pat Herren Circle and their husbands for their faithful work in decorating the sanctuary for Christmas, as well as taking everything down!

Glorifying Christ ~ Faye Henning



Singers Needed for 11:00 a.m. Service

The choir program is looking for singers for the 11 o'clock worship service. We would love to have a choir leading our congregation each week in worship. We would love to have you join us! If you are interested in singing with this choir, please contact Faye Henning at 224-4724.

Special Lenten Invitation

We know we have singers in our church who are too busy to make a long term commitment to the choir. But we would love to invite you to join us during the Lenten season. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the choir room, beginning February 10. Sing with us through Easter or as your schedule permits. Praising God is so uplifting! Come have your heart overflow.

From the Business Office ~ Bill McKinney

First, let me update our Stewardship Campaign. As of Jan 19th, 355 church members/families have pledged \$1,135,107 for the 2010 budget. Although still short of our goal, it does represent almost the same amount we pledged last year—with 12 fewer pledges! I have faith those members who pledged last year will continue to step forward and make a pledge again this year. However, until they do, our Finance Committee will have to adjust planned expenditures to forward a balanced budget to the Administrative Board for final approval. This leaner budget will impact our missions and operations, make it harder to fulfill our connectional obligations, and reduce the availability of any “flex” for contingencies. Pledges made after our final budget approval are still needed and will help assure we pay our bills on time and have enough left over to address unforeseen issues.

Those of you who attended the Southern Hills Church Conference on Jan 10 were treated to an excellent presentation on our kitchen/Herren Hall renovation and entrance canopy project. The conference overwhelmingly approved the proposal, which should begin in mid-February. Artist drawings are available for viewing and copies of the new floor plan can be obtained in the office. The total project cost is approximately \$615,000. Our Trustees have identified almost \$275,000 from two large donations and in Building and Memorial Funds which give us a great start towards our goal. But we need all church members to take ownership of the project, as all church members will benefit in some way from these improvements. Mark your checks “Renovation” or contact me if you would like to pledge over a period of time—be a part of this exciting time at Southern Hills!

A number of members have asked me if we could begin an automatic payment program here for pledged donations. We recently started the same process with our Early Childhood Program so parents could have their tuition payments withdrawn from their checking accounts each week by the church, thereby eliminating their need to remember to write a check. This has worked well and I’m now ready to offer it to our church members. To sign up, you will need to come by the office to complete an auto debit form and provide me a voided check. Once I have received at least 6 applications, I can begin the automatic payments. Call or come by if you have questions.

Although it was a pretty tough year in an economic sense, I’m pleased we were able to end it only slightly in the “red.” Our daycare program under performed due to several issues, but we believe we have made changes which should address those problems.

We continued to pay our bills on time and generous contributions at the end of the year helped us grow our connectional donations almost \$25,000 over last year (reflected in the Administrative line on the chart). And this doesn’t include the tens of thousands we gave to worthwhile missions and needs. I’m proud to be a member of such a generous and giving church—and you should be too.

Best regards,

Bill McKinney

Current Income / Expense			
Thru 31 Dec 09			
	(in thousands)		% Budgeted
INCOME			
SHECP	818		90.5
Contributions	1296		97.1
Other Income	53		113.1
Total Income	2167		94.8
EXPENSES			
SHECP	912		100.9
Capital	142		100.6
Property	128		81.8
Personnel	728		89.9
Administrative	203		106.8
Education & Worship	48		81.4
Leisure & Outreach	23		81.4
Total Expenses	2184		95.5
Balance	(17)		

United Methodist Women ~ Linda Rowland

February 3 ~ 12 noon

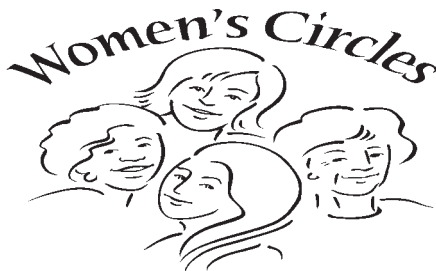


Fireside Room.



The United Methodist Women Invite The Women of the Church to join us Wednesday, March 3rd, as we observe Lent with a Quiet Meal. We will convene at 6:30 in the Youth Room to ready ourselves with prayer and quiet contemplation and then assemble in the Gym for the meal which, as the title implies, we will eat in silence. The meal concludes with reflections on Lent and the season of Easter and Holy Communion. There is no charge for the meal; however, we will gratefully accept your donations. We need to know how many will be attending so that we may provide appropriately and ask that you fill out the reservation form in the February bulletins.

Please place these in the offering plate or give to Lana Tipton.



The Pat Herren Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room on Tuesday, February 9th. Beryl Male will present a program on Prayer and Self Denial. Members are asked to bring peanut butter and crackers to give to Nathaniel Mission. After the meeting, a birthday lunch will be held at the Longhorn Steak House.

The Faith Susannah Wesley Circle will meet on Wednesday, February 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room at the church. Linda Rowland will speak to the group about her recent trip to the Holy Land.

The Meade Shotwell Circle will meet in the Fireside Room on February 1 at 7:00 p.m. We will be having our annual White Elephant Sale. So come prepared!

The New Life Circle will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 11 in the Reception Room. The group will bring items to fill Valentine bags for the youth at the Methodist Home, make plans for hosting Room in the Inn on March 13, and discuss Hug Buddy updates. For further information, please contact Bonnie Moore or Ruth Ann Storrow.

The Sarah Bagby Circle will meet on Wednesday, February 10, at noon in the Fireside Room. Lettie Sweazy will present a program on *Prayer and Self Denial*.

The Young UMW Circle (YUM) will meet on Sunday, February 28, at 3:30 p.m. in the Courtyard Room. Child Care will be provided. Come join this newest circle for Christian fellowship and fun. Call Becky Goodrich for further information (272-9550).

ATTENTION: ALL FLOWER AND PLANT LOVERS



PRE-ORDERS ONLY FOR SPRING 2010

After a cold winter, it is time to start thinking about your summer gardening needs. The Sarah Babgy Circle is now taking orders for their annual flower sale.

Order forms may be found in your Sunday bulletin, at the Welcome Center or visit the Sarah Bagby Circle table in Herren Hall on Sunday, March 28, April 11 and 18. Plants will be available on these dates to purchase, preview, and order. Hanging baskets as well as our popular WHOLE OR HALF FLATS will be offered. Single pots of our favorites, plus herbs, tomatoes and green peppers will also be available.

LAST DATE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER WILL BE APRIL 18.

PICK UP DATES ARE:

Thursday, April 22, (11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)
or Friday, April 23 (9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

All proceeds will go to help with church projects or needs and to local charities in our community. For questions, please call Becky Hall 296-1197 (cell 619-8255), Therese Cooper 296-2318, or Glenda Walden 299-2242.

Community and Fellowship ~ Chris Hogg

RECREATION UPDATE!

- Upward Basketball got off to a great start on Saturday, January 16th. We will continue to have games from 9:00 am through 2:30 pm every Saturday until at least March 6th, so feel free to come out and see what's going on with this program. We have 72 children playing and had at least 30-40 spectators per game for 5 games on Saturday. That means over 200 people are coming into our gym every Saturday, many of which do not have a church to call home. We need everyone to do their part to make this church welcoming to these families.
- Our men's golf trip is coming up April 22-25 in Waynesville, NC. Anyone who is interested needs to contact me about the cost and the timeline for a deposit. Should be another great trip and we'll hope and pray the weather is as great as it was last year.
- Men's open basketball is continuing on Sunday nights at 8:00. We also now have basketball for men over 35 years old, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30. The 18-35 year old men will play the same nights at 8:00. This will continue for as long as we have enough guys to play.
- We are also in the process of restarting our formerly successful high school basketball leagues. Different churches in the area will be able to enter teams into our league to play a regular season and tournament. This will be a great way to get some of our youth more involved and to help other churches do the same thing.
- Our Karate class with Jim Smith, Kentucky Repertory Dance Theatre ballet class with Nancy Durall, and Simply Fit Boot Camp fitness class with Jennifer Brooks are all still going on this year.

I hope all of you are having a great winter season and I'm sure most of us are looking forward to another spring! If you need any more information on any of these programs or other things going on in the Activities building, call me at 277-6176 ext. 36 or e-mail at chogg@southernhillsumc.org.

Children's Ministry ~ Rev. Nancy Newby



Valentines Day Spaghetti Fundraiser

February 14th Spaghetti FUND-RAISER (For Children's Ministry Scholarship Fund)

On Sunday February 14th please consider supporting our Valentines Day Spaghetti Fund-raiser. This will be the kickoff fund-raiser for a scholarship fund to help send children on special retreats and to a variety of Christian summer camps. The current economy has hit most of our families pretty hard. The cost for summer camps and special trips continues to rise, and yet these experiences provide unique opportunities for children to further develop their faith, and to form lasting Christian friendships.

Main course offerings will be spaghetti with marinara sauce;
spaghetti with meat sauce and fettuccine with alfredo sauce.
(The menu will also include salad, breadsticks, beverages & dessert.)

We will be selling tickets in Herren Hall on Sundays and tickets can be purchased from Nancy (Children's Ministry Office) throughout the week. Nancy's cell phone number is 351-9291 for those with additional questions. We will have the option of an 11 a.m. serving time and a 12 noon serving time!

Adults = \$10

Children (ages 2-10) = \$5

Infants & One Year Olds = Free

**If you cannot participate in our spaghetti fund-raiser contributions to the Children's Ministry scholarship fund would be welcome. Just mark the memo line of your check with: Children's Ministry scholarship fund!*

CHILDREN'S CAMP



Aldersgate Camp & Retreat Center

Registration begins on Feb 1st for Summer Camps. Summer camp season is rapidly approaching and we would like to encourage Southern Hills families to consider spending some time at camp this summer. Children from church families average 1-2 hours per week, or about 6 hours per month, involved in some type of Christian Education or Christian formational experience *outside the home*. During a week (5 days) at camp children and families experience the glory of God's creation for at least 70 hours (depending on how much sleep you get) in one great

outdoor experience. There are shorter camps for younger elementary kids, called Mini-Camp. These are three day/two night camps. There are also three day/ two night camps for grandparents and grandchildren in Aldersgate's air conditioned cottages. For really active and adventurous kids there are sports camps, horse camps, drama camps, dance camps, princess camps and more...Go to www.aldersgatecamp.org to check out the great variety of options. Some camps fill up quickly, so if you need to get into a specific camp, please register early. Nancy Newby, John Hatton & Chris Hogg will be serving as volunteer deans for three different camps the week of June 22nd!



Southern Hills United Methodist Church

Making a Difference for Christ
2356 Harrodsburg Road
Lexington, KY 40503-1795
Telephone: (859) 277-6176
E-mail: Info@southernhillsumc.org
Web address: www.southernhillsumc.org

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February 2010

Return Services Requested



Ministers: Dr. Bill Moore
Rev. Dennis J Burrows
Rev. John Hatton

Stephen Ministry: Caring for Hurting People”



Philippians 4:6 “Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”

The Stephen Ministry program seeks to provide Christian care giving to those who feel sadness, loneliness, depression, illness and troubles with daily living. A Stephen Minister seeks to provide Christ centered, confidential, Christian care giving. We are fortunate in our congregation to have this outreach program and people who are ready to embrace those in need of a trustworthy friend. Go ahead. Ask someone to walk beside you as you struggle to cope with the troubles that come about unexpectedly in life. A Stephen Minister is waiting for your call. To receive a Stephen Minister please phone John Hatton at 277-6176 or Barbara Lally at 223-4520.

Our worship services may be heard on 630 WLAP-AM radio every Sunday at 8:30 A.M., brought to you by Quantrell Cadillac Volvo and Al Torstrick Insurance.