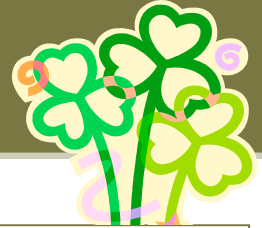


Downs UMC NEWSLETTER

March 2006
Volume 15, Issue 3



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THE LENTEN SEASON BRINGS RENEWAL By Pastor Curt

ROMANS 12:2 SAYS "DO NOT CONFORM ANY LONGER TO THE PATTERN OF THE WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND."

STARTING MARCH 5, WE WILL BEGIN THE LENTEN SEASON. IT IS A TIME TO REFOCUS OUR LIVES TO PUT THEM ON TRACK TO BECOME MORE LIKE JESUS. IT IS A TIME OF RENEWING OUR MINDS TO THINK MORE AND MORE LIKE HIM.

THE LENTEN SEASON IS A TIME TO GET RID OF THOSE THINGS THAT MAY BE CAUSING ROAD BLOCKS THAT HINDER OUR RECEIVING ALL THAT GOD HAS FOR US AND THOSE AROUND US.

AS WE BEGIN TO RENEW OUR MINDS TO BE TRANSFORMED EACH DAY TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS, IT CAUSES US TO RID OURSELVES FROM THOSE ROAD BLOCKS, AND WE BEGIN TO BECOME MORE ON TRACK WITH WHAT JESUS IS CALLING US TO BE AND DO.

THIS SEASON IS A TIME TO REVIEW OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LIVING CHRIST. IT IS A TIME OF REMEMBERING WHAT JESUS DID FOR US IN DYING ON THE CROSS.

WHILE WE ARE DOING THIS, WE MUST ASK OURSELVES...WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR HIM IN RETURN?

HAVE A HAPPY LENTEN SEASON AND REMEMBER THAT GOD GAVE HIS SON FOR YOU, BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE FOR YOU.

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HOW ARE YOU SERVING? CAN YOU FILL IN A SPOT?

Power Point Operators

	<u>8am Service</u>	<u>10:30 am Service</u>
1	No Service	CAN YOU HELP?

Power Point Operators

	<u>8:00 am Service</u>	<u>10:30 am Service</u>
5	Rhonda Nalley	Robb Erlenbush
12	Sue Colclasure	Laura Walters
19	Jake Nalley	Tom Coulon
26	John Fisher	CAN YOU HELP?

GREETERS

- 5 Betty Harvey, Madelyne Gelsthorpe & Diane Scherr
- 12 Mike James Family
- 19 Kurt Harper Family
- 26 Ed & Donna Clark and Ron Berry

NURSERY SCHEDULE

10:30am Service

- 5 Kathi & Heather Miller
- 12 Brian & Janelle Zachow
- 19 Jen Nelson
- 22 Michelle Roop

Ad Board Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2006

By: Lyn Edwards, Recording Secretary

Call to Order 5:07PM.

Pastor Curt opened with prayer.

Special Meeting to discuss the results of the Trustees search for property to be purchased by the Church for a possible build site for the new Church building.

Jon Spelde reported:

- Discussion on the Bethel properties explored
 - Possible to work with the Tri-Valley School District to explore advantages to both parties to be located adjacent to the Middle School.
 - Possible shared driveway with the Middle School
 - Possible shared parking with the Middle School
- Jon and the Trustees will proceed as follows:
 - Determine property lines of both the Bethel properties
 - Contact Tom Morrison for input about the property and the District's position.
 - Check into the potential drainage issue on the property.
 - Determine accessibility.
 - Determine suitability to build the current church model.

- Steps should be taken to prepare and engage the church members prior to conference vote. Possible meeting with small groups.
- Keep land and building separate.
- Jon will contact Tim when he has acquired all the information and is prepared for another meeting with the Board.

Other Items:

- Brent Ward made a motion to approve the sale of .135 acres of Church property to be sold to the State for \$25,000. Dave Caldwell seconded the motion. Motion Carried.
- Bill Erlenbush offered to help the Church with Financial Analysis. This information will be passed on to the Finance Committee.
- Doug Gerig, Realtor offered his services to help sell the existing Church property. The Board determined that this is not needed at this time.

Closed with prayer from Pastor Curt.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting made by Brent Ward. Seconded by Janice Cuba. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned 5:50 PM

Present: Tim Mikel, Jon Spelde, Curt Rush, Brent Ward, Janice Cuba, Sherry Reed, Peggy Stark, Pam Rush, Lyn Edwards, Dave Caldwell, Rhonda Nalley.

March Birthdays

- 1 Cathy Owens
- 4 Rose Rutledge
- 4 Joe Gibson
- 9 Blaise McNeese
- 9 Ryan Walters
- 10 Brad Cox
- 11 Mabel Courtney
- 12 Dale Harvey
- 16 Madelyne Gelsthorpe
- 17 Jessica Dahms
- 17 Larry Stark
- 19 Sarah Jackson
- 19 Gary Adkisson
- 24 Rodney Kleinlein
- 24 Brent Harper
- 25 Jim Adams
- 26 Brandi Hammer
- 27 Jakob Nalley
- 30 Debbie McNaught
- 31 Brock Ward

March Anniversaries

- 15 Jim & Marcia Adams
- 21 Steve & Jetsy Sachtleben
- 25 Cecil & Kate Reise
- 26 Jack & Lyn Edwards
- 27 Mike & Jean Riordan

Days to Celebrate!



Where has prayer gone?

Are you praying for our church on a daily basis? We need someone to head up prayer for our church. Don't think that it could be the person next to you. It could be you. Pray about it and contact Pastor Curt. Do you realize prayer is the only thing the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to do.

March 2006 Mission Minutes

By Pam Rush

We collected \$126.21 in the February mission buckets. We will give \$300 to Salem Ranch in Flannigan, IL. They have an annual "Charity Auction and Horse Sale" to raise money for the ranch. (See the flyer on the bulletin board going downstairs or contact Jan Holmes with any questions.) The **Auction and Sale will be April 8th**.

By the time you receive this newsletter, our Chili/Potato Soup Supper will already have happened. We just want to say a big **"THANK YOU"** to all who helped by donating food items, inviting people to come, and working at the event. It could not happen if not for the help of you in our congregation!!!! I think it really is a fun time!

Since last newsletter we have given away \$1019.11

Traveler/gas	\$20.01	Medicine	\$495.10	Timberlee	\$40.00
Salem Ranch	\$300	Compassion	\$164.00		

Working together for Christ in our community and world.

Get Acquainted Potluck Sunday, March 19 after 2nd Service in the Fellowship Hall

Our membership has changed and we need to get better acquainted, so plan to join us!

There is a sign up sheet in the sanctuary, so please check it out so the Nurture Committee will be able to plan for the event. Come see what they have in store for everyone!



St. Mary's Fish Frys

Fridays: March 10; March 24; March 31
5:30pm - 7:30 pm

Adults \$7.00 Children 6-12 \$3.00
Children 5 and under free.

Menu

Catfish and /or Walleye
Cole Slaw

Fries

Homemade Desserts

Drinks

Grilled Cheese Available for Kids



ATTENTION EVERYONE INTERESTED IN CAMPING: Literature on the available camps is in the back of the church. Register now as the camps fill up in a



2nd Annual Vermilion River District Rally

Sunday March 26, 2006

Pre-Rally - 12:30-2:00 pm

Rally - 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Calvary United Methodist Church, Normal, IL

Speaker: Dr. Leonard Sweet

Dr. Sweet is an engaging and transforming speaker and preacher at conferences around the globe.

Vermilion River District Mass Choir will also perform.

2006 East Lynn Ladies Retreat

“Beautiful are the Feet”...Isaiah 52:7

Saturday, March 11, 2006

Speaker: Liz Curtis Higgs

8:00 am registration, coffee, book tables

Retreat: 9am – 3:30 pm

Hoopeston Area High School

Registration \$30—includes Lunch

Give registrations to Pam Rush

Programs at Downs UMC

- **UMW Meets** the 2nd Sunday of the month for breakfast at 7:30am. All ladies of the church are welcome.
- **Sunday School** classes for Preschool through adults every Sunday at 9:15am
- **Angel Choir** practices every Monday night at 5:00pm Grades K and up.
- **Praise Band** practices each Tuesday night at 6:30pm
- **Family Night** is Wednesday nights
 - 5:30-6:15 DUMC Players
 - 5:30-6:45 Homework and Dinner Time
 - 6:00-7:00 DUMC Choir
 - 6:30-8:00 Sisters Study Group
 - 7:00-8:00 Youth Groups
 - 7:00-8:00 Bible Study

Pontiac UMW Unit Meeting

Wednesday, March 15
9:30 am

Continental Breakfast

Speaker: Chaplain

Kellie Milby of the

Dwight Correctional

Center

Pontiac UMW is

collecting good used

clothing, Christian

books and Bibles and

unused greeting cards

and note paper for the

ladies at the

Correctional Center.

9th Annual Love Thy Neighbor Choir Concert

Sunday, March 19

3:00-4:30pm

Holy Trinity Church

Tickets: \$8 See Fred Myers

Proceeds go to Habitat for

Humanity whose mission is to

provide decent and affordable

housing to those who need it the

most.

Members of our choir will be in

the Mass choir.



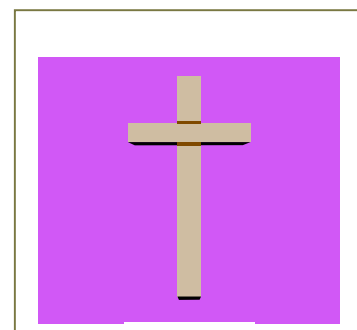
Love on the Cross

This Lenten Season starting with the first Sunday in Lent leading up to Easter we are using a program entitled "Love on the Cross." The 40 days of the Lenten season can be a very meaningful time for Christians. Forty days has great significance in the Bible.

- In Noah's day, rain fell on the ground for 40 days.
- The prophet Jonah warned that in 40 more days Nineveh will be destroyed.
- Jesus himself fasted and prayed for 40 days and nights in the wilderness.
- After 40 days, Jesus returned to Nazareth with the power of God.
- The resurrected Christ appeared to the disciples for 40 days.

Weekly Themes are:

- Week 1: Love Shows the Way Mark 8:27-38
- Week 2: Love Calls Us to Follow Mark 8:31-38, John 6:66-71
- Week 3: Love is Rejected John 10:22-42
- Week 4: Love Must Rule Us John 13:1-17
- Week 5: Love Gives Life John 6:35-59
- Week 6: Love is Exalted Matthew 21:1-17
- Week 7: Love Lives Matthew 28:1-20



The children will be having a related lesson during Sunday School Music time.

Pray each day that the Love on the Cross program will inspire spiritual growth in your life and other lives, too.

2006 Official Role (Positions being Served)

Ad Board Chairperson:	Tim Mikel	<u>FINANCE:</u>	Rhonda Nalley, Larry Stark, Donna Kleinlein
Recording Secretary:	Lyn Edwards		Janice Cuba, John Werner, Trustee
Finance Chairperson:	John Werner		Bill Erlenbush, Dave Caldwell
Lay Leadership Secretary:	Jamie Ward	<u>TRUSTEES:</u>	Andre McNaught, Darla Lanchester
PPRC Chairperson:	Brent Ward		Jon Spelde, Mac Fuller
Lay Leader:	Dave Caldwell		Craig Solvie, Ken Garling, Suzann Erlenbush
Lay Member to Confer.:	John Werner	<u>PPRC:</u>	Tim Riley, Glenda Walsh, Larry Stark
Treasurer:	Janice Cuba		Brent Ward, Becky Duncan, Tammy Stricklan
Financial Secretary:	Rhonda Nalley		Jean Riordan
Nurture Chairperson:	Sherry Reed	<u>NOMINATIONS:</u>	Jamie Ward
Outreach Chairperson:	Pam Rush		Ed Clark, Jan Holmes
Witness Chairperson:	Etta Whitted		Glenda Fike, Sherry Riley
UMW President:	Donna Clark		
Youth Director:	Peggy Stark		
Camping Coordinator:	Pastor Curt		
Church Secretary:	Janice Cuba		

There are always opportunities within the church, so if you haven't been assigned a position, please contact Pastor Curt. We never want anyone's desire to serve to be turned down.

Downs UMC
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Pastor Curt
downsumc@juno.com
Secretary
officedumc@juno.com

**Hours: 8:30 am – 10:30 am Wednesday
and Thursday Afternoons Tuesday &
Wednesday**

Welcome to the Mike and Cindy Halloran Family that
transferred from Wesley United Methodist Church



**Check out the church website! It has taken on
a new look thanks to Darla!! The address is:
www.downsumc.org**

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.downsumc.org

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