

Downs UMC NEWSLETTER

October 2006
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A New Thing God Is Doing

By Pastor Ron

*"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"
- Isaiah 43:19*

Over the past several years the changing times have been dominating my thinking. We have barely begun the twenty-first century (only 6 years into it) and already we have experienced cultural shifts that have changed the way people are living. And because it is so near and dear to my heart, I have especially noticed how it is affecting the Church. The way we spend our time - with whom and at what, how we set our priorities, how we receive media news, entertainment and information, how we send and receive mail, how we work, how we are educated, how we play and how we shop. Above all, how we can and do communicate is drastically altering the world in which we live. I believe the next ten years will continue to push the limits of what is possible. The engine that has fueled these dramatic changes of the last twenty years has been termed the digital revolution.

The micro-chip has and is now also affecting the media of worship throughout the church. Computers print our bulletins, newsletter (including this article), all our church correspondence, directories and announcements. Churches are using computers and digital projectors to display worship liturgies, announcements, preaching illustrations and song lyrics on sanctuary wall screens. We have all heard cell phones and beepers sometimes ring during worship services, Sunday School, Bible study and other events. Twenty years from now, people will look at the way we communicated back in the 1970s and 80s the way we now view horse and buggy travel as a means of transportation. Instead of watching a pre-set television program schedule, we now can also watch a favorite video or DVD any time we wish (multiple thousands are available). Instead of listening to the

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radio, we can listen to a CD ("What's a record?," kids ask.). Fewer and fewer typewriters are seen; in favor of word processors. The long list of new digital devices grows every day.

Some say, that by the time my oldest granddaughter is a teenager, a hand-held device will be available that will be a satellite computer, GPS map program, television, radio, CD (mini-disk), clock, camera, fax machine, e-mail device, telephone and credit card, all rolled into one. She will be able to use this machine anywhere on the planet and at any time. More than that, she will likely have her own identification number (like a social security number) that accesses everything (her phone #, e-mail, personal, medical, insurance and financial and credit, information). And, finally, using this device will be much easier than setting your clock on your first VCR.

These innovations are bringing real cultural shifts and will continue to influence the way we do things in our church as well. It boggles the mind to think about it but we must because it points to a different way of understanding the role of the Church and what we are to be about as these changes come and our ministry reaches out to the people who are living in this new technological world.

I am excited about the future because it provides opportunities for us to affirm

afresh with new exciting and powerfully creative tools the core values of the Christian faith and gospel that never changes but WILL always change hearts and lives. Congregations who have accepted the fact that this new reality is on the way fast are evolving to use FAITHFUL but fresh approaches, a blending of the traditional with the more contemporary church ministry.

Let us join our hearts in prayer that we will be faithful and work together seeking the guidance of God's Spirit to continue to envision and plan for the great future of our church here at Downs UMC.

October 2006 Mission Minutes

By Ginger Campbell

We collected \$121.66 in the September mission buckets. We added to this amount and sent \$250 to Midwest Distribution Center. The medical equipment, choir folders, choir robes and some school supplies were delivered to them in August. We took a total of 383 lbs. Amazing isn't it. I have been in contact with Donna Thomas (the sandwich lady in Bloomington who feeds the homeless), and she told me that her numbers are down a little right now. She is only feeding 45 - it was around 70! She also said that she does have a couple of volunteers now that have been helping her.

Since the last Newsletter, we have given \$1,185.00 as follows:

Tri-Valley High School	\$145.00
Tri-Valley Community School Dist.	490.00
Midwest Distribution Center	250.00
Donna Thomas	300.00

A big "thank you" from our committee to all of you for your generous support. God has certainly blessed this ministry in our church. Through all of you His ministry continues to be the outstretched hands of Christ.

October Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Matt Castleman | 25 Megan Roop |
| 2 Steve Sachtleben | 26 Emily Solvie |
| 3 Danielle Harper | 27 Nathan Whitted |
| 4 Alan Castleman | 31 Shelly Gibson |
| 4 Mary Moran | |
| 5 Jaden Ward | |
| 5 Diane Scherr | |
| 6 Ken Wagner | |
| 8 Nick Campbell | |
| 8 Kendall Gher | |
| 10 Kourtnie Cobstill | |
| 11 Jim Walters | |
| 13 Paul Wells | |
| 15 Jessica Gibson | |
| 17 Deanna Dahms | |
| 22 Julie Wilkinson | |
| 23 Sheena Fike | |
| 25 Chad Holmes | |

The Odd Job List is posted on the Bulletin Board by the North Door, and has been in the bulletin.

Thank you to those that have completed some of the tasks!

There are a few more items to go. Check it out and see how you can serve.



Days to Celebrate!

October Anniversaries

- 3 Chris & Rhonda Nalley
- 5 Charles & Marilyn Murphy
- 15 Bill & Lanette Draper
- 26 Dave & Becky Connour

The Nurture Committee would like to thank everyone that attended and helped with the Let's Get Acquainted Potluck. A good time was had by all.

Thanks



Looking for a fun way to get to know our congregation? Be a greeter during 2nd Service. Call Sherry Reed at 663-2999.

Looking for a unique ministry? Be in charge of the Marquee in front of the church. It can be an inspiration to all those passing by. We have resources in the office.

Church Directory to get a facelift!

The Nurture Committee is working on updating the church Directory, so your individual information is needed. Please be sure to complete the "Getting to know you..." sheets provided in the bulletins.

Minutes
Church Conference Meeting
August 6, 2006
Downs United Methodist Church

Call to Order at 11:55 AM.

Keith Zimmerman opened the meeting by introducing Tim Mikel.

Tim Mikel addressed the congregation

1. Ad Board voted unanimously to bring the recommendation to the congregation.
2. If voted to proceed with the purchase of the 22 acre parcel, the church will release the commitment on the 14 acre parcel
3. Location has excellent visibility from Route 150
4. This parcel has access directly from Route 150
5. Location is still very close to the school for outreach programs
6. More land than needed for the facility - potential investment with the excess land
7. No additional debt would be incurred with the purchase of this property for cash flow purposes.
8. Questions raised by the Ad Board will need to be addressed by the Trustees

Discussion:

1. Property is not in the town limit but might consider annexing to Downs. Within 1 ½ miles of the town so the Village would be involved.
2. Sewer could potentially tie into the property
3. Initially we would use a well but might tie into the town of Downs for the sprinkler system
4. Pastor Ron made inquiries in regard to the access from Route 150 and where the drive would need to be located
5. There are not any known problems with adjoining land owners
6. If we do not purchase the land -
 - a. Monies received from the conference to purchase the land would not need to be returned but the ethics of our Church would compel us to return the money if we did not intend to purchase land
 - b. Monies in the "Building on our Faith Campaign" would need to be brought before the Church to determine the use of these funds

Keith Zimmerman read the recommendation. Comments followed:

1. It was explained that even though the attendance appears to be going down that this does not affect the building fund. Operating fund and building fund are two different accounts.
2. The purchase of the land does not immediately indicate that we will start to build the new church.
3. Survey costs will be worked out with the seller. A 50/50 split in cost is preferable
4. It is expected land will appreciate - this is a good move
5. There is an interest in the development of this property should we need to sell it in the future.
6. This is a good investment in the growth of our Church. When it happens we will be ready
7. We do not have a time limit to build once we have purchased the land for the conference requirements
8. Totally positive - Can't think of any negatives

Vote was taken.

Results: 52 Total Votes
50 Yes Votes
2 No Votes

Recommendation carried.

Results were announced.

Meeting adjourned 12:25 PM

Respectfully submitted, Lyn Edwards, Recording Secretary

Dates to Know:

Sun., October 1	Both Services 11:30am	World Communion PPRC Meeting Trustees
Mon., October 2	6:00 pm	Home Extension
Tue., October 3	9:00-3:00	Family Night
Wed., October 4	5:30-8:00pm	Girl Scouts
Thur., October 5	6:00-7:30pm	Downstairs in use
Sat., October 7	All Day & Evening	UMW
Sun., October 8	7:30am	Family Night
Wed., October 11	5:30-8:00pm	Committee & Board Meetings
Sun., October 15	5:30pm	Family Night
Wed., October 18	5:30-8:00pm	Girl Scouts
Thur., October 19	6:00-7:30pm	Spaghetti Supper
Sun., October 22	4:30-7:00pm	Family Night
Wed., October 25	5:30-8:00pm	TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK
Sun., October 29	2:00am or earlier 6:00-8:00pm	Charge Conference at Wesley UMC

UMW Spaghetti Supper

Sunday, October 22, 2006

4:30-7:00pm

Adults \$5.00 in advance

Children 12 & Younger \$3.00 in advance

Adults \$6.00 at the door

Children \$4.00 at the door

Workers are needed!

Contact Kim Lewis or Leigh Hayes

Proceeds are for missions.

**Committee and Ad Board Meetings****Sunday, October 15****5:30 Committee Meetings****6:30 Supper****7:00 Ad Board Meeting**

Property Update

The Trustees have been waiting on the property survey, which has been completed and they will be discussing at their meeting on October 2nd. We have a tentative closing date on the property of November 15, 2006.

Family Nights

Wednesdays each week

- 5:30 Dinner
Angel Choir
- 5:55 Drama
- 6:00 Downs UMC Choir
Homework Room
- 6:45 Kitchen Closes
- 7:00 Youth Groups and Bible Study for all ages and a nursery will be provided.
Praise Band

Family Night Teachers

- Pre K – 1st Dawn Ramirez
- 2nd-4th Brittnay Whitted Helping
- 5th-6th Mike & Julie James
- Jr. High Rita Harsh
- Sr. High Kathy George
- Bible Study Bridget Caldwell & Shannon Ramirez
- Larry Stark

Please keep all of our education programs lifted up in prayer.



The Sunday School program is still looking for a teacher of the 5th & 6th grades. Please contact Peggy at 378-4546.

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If you are receiving this newsletter by regular mail and can receive it electronically, please email Janice at: [officedumc@juno.com](mailto:officedumc@juno.com)  
This helps save the cost of producing the newsletter.  
Thanks!  
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Thank You October Volunteers

- Power Point Operators
8:00 am Service 10:30 am Service
- 1 Rhonda Nalley Robb Erlenbush
 - 8 Sue Colclasure Laura Walters
 - 15 Rhonda Nalley Tom Coulon
 - 22 John Fisher Jean Riordan
 - 29 Help Needed Help Needed

- GREETERS 10:30 am Service
- 1 Tom Coulon Family
 - 8 Ed & Donna Clark; Barb Jones
 - 15 Tim & Sue Mikel; Ron Berry
 - 22 Rick Hayes Family
 - 29 Diane Scherr, Michelle Forbes, Sherry Reed

- ~~~~~
NURSERY SCHEDULE
10:30am Service
- 1 Michelle Forbes
 - 8 Brian & Janelle Zachow
 - 15 Dawn Ramirez
 - 22 Karyn Spelde
 - 29 Jamie Ward

Downs UMC

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Pastor Ron

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Secretary:

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Hours:

Wednesday-Thursday

8:30 am - 10:30 am

**Tuesday and Wednesday
Afternoons**

2006 Official Role (Positions being Served)

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

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.downsumc.org

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