

West Farmington
United Methodist Church
THE COURIER – APRIL 2011



Newsletter Staff

Pastor Jim George 330 889-3345
jgeorge004@neo.rr.com
Joyce List 440 548-2618
Carol Jean Goddard 330 889-0022
Sharon VanDervort 330 979-9314
wfchurchnews@aol.com

West Farmington United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 93
West Farmington, Ohio 44491-0093
Phone: (330) 889-3345
<http://www.farmingtoncommunity.org/wfumc/courier.htm>
WFChurchnews@aol.com

Note from the Pastor for April:

As we approach the Easter holiday my mind goes over the commitments I have made during this Lenten season. It's appropriate to stop and reflect on what God has done/is doing/will do for each of us. This includes sending His Son so that I/you might have an eternal relationship with Him. As with any relationship, communication is a key factor. My relationship with my spouse, family, and neighbors is all contingent upon a balance of talking and listening. And as the old adage goes, God gave us two ears and only one mouth so we must be meant to listen twice as much as we talk. Do I/you really stop to listen to those around us? Do we really know what is going on in their lives or do we just do the cliché type greetings – “Hi, how are you?” Do we really take the time to get to know someone's inner thoughts and emotions.

Well the place to start is in our communication with God – that's called prayer. Even though God knows all things, especially my/your needs, He wants us to get to know Him better by talking to Him. This does not have to be in some formal church language, but just in the same everyday language you would use with a friend or neighbor.

I have discovered that prayer's real purpose is to put God at the center of my attention. I need to let go of myself (“die to self” in church language) and to focus more on God and others. And a big part of that focus is to sit and listen. I may come to prayer with a tangled mass of motives – universal and selfish, merciful and hateful, loving and bitter. But I know that God is big enough to receive all of us with all our mixture. We do not have to be bright, or pure, or filled with faith, or anything. That is what grace means, and not only are we saved by grace, but we live by it as well. And we pray by it. So, take time to talk to God. It is becoming a bigger part of my life, day by day.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing!
Pastor Jim

Prayer: (from the “24 Hours That Changed the World” Devotional)

Jesus, help me to abide in you – to speak with you, listen for your voice, worship you, and study your words. Please help me to live a life of love toward others. Amen.

Bible Study - Tuesday night at 7 pm and Wednesday morning at 10 am: “24 Hours That Changed the World” by Adam Hamilton.

The aim of this study is to help us better understand the events that occurred during the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. We will be using a 40 Day Devotional (\$8) along with the book by the same name (optional - \$18). Whether you are a longtime Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you are invited to join us on this inspiring journey. Running through April 19 & 20 at the parsonage, you can stop in for any session. The books help but are optional.

United Methodist Women (UMW) mission project for Easter – The Beatitude House.

Still available for pick up at the church are Special Offering Boxes to be used during Lent and returned at Easter. The UMW would like to support this local ministry that helps young homeless women and children get back on their feet through education, training, jobs, housing, and counseling. This is a separate outreach from our regular monthly mission collections. Let us continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING – Sunday, April 3

Necessities of life include food, shelter, and clothing. However, many people around the world lack these basic necessities. The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering makes those necessities a reality by sharing the goodness of life with those who hurt.

Additionally, when a catastrophe occurs, your offerings to the **One Great Hour of Sharing** enables the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to reach out and ease the pain and suffering by providing humanitarian aid of food, shelter, peace and hope. The current relief efforts in Haiti are examples of this kind of ministry assistance.

By giving to the **One Great Hour of Sharing**, you enable UMCOR to keep the promise of **100% of designated gifts going to specific causes**. UMCOR receives no World Service money to conduct its mission. That is why your faithful support of the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering is crucial.

UMCOR – Japanese Earthquake and Tsunami Relief.

If you feel called to donate toward the Japanese Relief, make your donation out to WFUMC, marked for UMCOR – Japan, and we will forward your donation. Know that we are the only non-profit that can say 100% of your donation will be used for that relief. At this time all UMCOR assistance to Japan is being funneled through existing disaster relief organizations in Japan.

Local Missions

We are looking at doing a **Spring Good Samaritan Day** in May to help those who could use a hand with their yard work. If you or someone you know could use some help or if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Mike Rowland or Pastor Jim.

Vacation Bible School

It's not too early to think about! We are anticipating an early June schedule so if you can help in any way, please contact Judy Vystrcil or Pastor Jim.

LENTEN THEMES FOR STEWARDSHIP

-Many Christians fast a meal or a day per week during Lent. This is a good time to focus on Stewardship of our bodies through proper diet, exercise, and regular medical check-ups.

-Lenten theme of “Dust to Dust,” can allow us to either speak about the importance of having a will, or putting an article in our bulletin or newsletter. Here is a very brief example: “The cross of Jesus forces all of us to think about life and death. Do you have a will that reflects how you wish your estate to be distributed? Did you know that 70% of Americans do not have a will? If you should die without a will, the state of Ohio DOES have one for you, but it will not reflect your wishes for your estate. Lent is a time to prepare a will, to ask ourselves what we want our life to be remembered for, and what our final act of Christian stewardship might be.”

-Lent is a time where sacrifice is emphasized. Just a remind that sacrificial giving to the church becomes even more critical during difficult economic times and that God's sacrifice for us remains unchanged.

BAMA Lenten Services

The Bristol Area Ministerial Association will have their regular Lenten Services at our local churches starting Sundays at 6:00pm, except for the Good Friday service which starts at 7:00pm.

Apr 03 BAMA Lenten Service, at Wildare UMC, Rev. Ron McIlvaine speaker

Apr 10 BAMA Lenten Service, at North Bristol Christian, Rev. Jim Jewell speaker

Apr 22 BAMA Good Friday Service, at W. Farmington UMC, Rev. Roger Norton speaker, 7:00pm, (social time 6:00)

Western Reserve District Spring Conference and Leadership Workshops, April 2, 9:30am – 3:00pm, at Painesville Harvey High School, 26 Workshops to choose from.

Laity Revival April 9 - A Laity Revival will be held April 9 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at Westbrook Park UMC in Canton. Bishop Hopkins will be commissioning Laity to do Ministry.

KIDS KLUB - An After School Program for K-5th GRADE. MONDAYS, 3:30-5:30 pm. Includes: Snack Time, Recreational Time, Craft/Homework Time, singing, and a Bible Lesson. It is open to all kids in our community. Come and Help!

United Methodist Women

Monthly meeting was held on March 9th with the following members present: Florence Satterlee, Verona George, Dorothy Cleer, Kim Rosebolossom, CJ Goddard and Rosemary Fasulo. The dates May 13th, 14th, and 15th have been chosen for the community garage sale. Church Community Clean Up date is scheduled for Saturday May 21st. Our church will be hosting Good Friday Service. Finger foods will be needed; please have your donation to the church by 6:00pm. Refreshments will precede the service. The matter of a church choir was mentioned and all members agreed that it would be wonderful to have a choir again. We pray that someone will step forward and take on this challenge.

Neighbor Updates

If you have some information about a friend of the church who has moved away feel free to contact me with an update and the contact information so we can keep in touch with old friends!

Wfchurchnews@aol.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR APRIL

New Member Class – see Pastor Jim to schedule a time for a class – will then join on Easter.

Every Sunday – Adult Sunday School at 9:30am and Children’s SS during Worship.

Every Monday - Kids Klub after school program, 3:30-5:30pm

Every Monday through April 11 - Choc/peanut butter Eggs – 9am & 6pm shifts

Every Tuesday - Windsor House Nursing Home Worship Service – 10-11am.

Every Tuesday through April 19 - “24 Hours That Changed the World” Bible Study – 7pm – parsonage

Every Wednesday through April 20 - “24 Hours That Changed the World” Bible Study – 10 am - parsonage

April 2 Western Reserve District Spring Conference and Leadership Workshops, 9:30am – 3:00pm, at Painesville Harvey High School, 26 Workshops to choose from.

Apr 3 Communion Sunday & One Great Hour of Sharing – bring in your “Noisy Collection” from March for this special collection.

Apr 3 BAMA Lenten Service at Wildare UMC at 6 pm.

Apr 5 Administrative Council at 2:00pm

Apr 9 Laity Gathering with Bishop Hopkins in Canton, 9:30am – Noon.

Apr 10 Special Collection for Bristol Area Food Ministry (BAFM)

Apr 10 BAMA Lenten Service at N. Bristol Christian Church at 6 pm.

Apr 13 United Methodist Women at 10am at the church.

Apr 13 Bristol Area Ministerial Association (BAMA) at the Bella Women’s Center at 9am.

Apr 15-16 Scrapbooking with Denise McDowell at the church

Apr 17 Palm Sunday

April 22 - We will be hosting the BAMA Good Friday Service at 7:00pm with Pastor Roger Norton as guest speaker. It will be Tenebrae style service where we leave in silence, therefore our social time will be at 6:00pm. We will need to provide cookies and desserts!

April 24 – Easter Services at 8:30 am (followed by a breakfast) and 10:30 am. Noisy Collection will be for the Bella Women’s Center (formerly the Pregnancy Center).

RAINBOW GIRLS NEWS

Remember!!!!!! Krispy Kreme Doughnut sale. \$6 per dozen. Last day to order is April 15th. Delivery will be April 25th in the morning.

Roxanne York - Public Relations chair

2821 Williamsburg ST NW

Warren, OH 44485

(330) 240-5116

Roxanne44@yahoo.com

W. Farmington UMC Prayer Marker - March 27, 2011

Recently Hospitalized: Wayne York VA Cleveland

Special Needs:

Remember Our Shut-Ins:

Dorothy Anthony	Betty Klouda	Richard Petrick
6931 Hennig Dr.	5837 Old St Rd	Cortland Healthcare
Citrus Hts, CA 95621	W. Farmington	369 High St.
		Cortland, OH 44410

Ernestine Woodford	Marjorie Heil	John Fluharty
Clearview Lantern Sts	5600 Larson W	1140 S Main St. SW
596 Champion Ave #206	W. Farmington	Warren OH 44485
Warren OH 44483		

David Albrecht	Bryce	Susan Arden	Jerry Armstrong	Issac Atkins	Esther Burr	Jeff Cape
Joan Chambers	Ray Chambers	Matt Chandler	Slater Champlain	Ed Cleer	Michael Cleer	Erma Coffey
Michael Cross	Ray Cross	Ray Cross	Shirley Cross	Dave ?	Tom Darno	Sherry Desenberg
Haley Dorshock	Donna Fiest	Angie Foft	Jim Gerlt	Jackie Gingergich	Kathy Granados	Dona Hites
Billy and Sharon Hodge	James Hungerford	Jesse Jilg	Margaret Klinger	Jen Knepper	Blanche Marcello	Leann Miller
Ellie Musiel	Brian P.	Ethan P	Rick Padavan	Kyle Quinn Jr.	Kim Roseblossom	Mike Shinosky
Katlin Smith	Elise Sprong	Julie Sternagle	Debbie Swindler	DeAnna Vicich	Holly Fusselman Walker	Laura Walsh
Chad Webb	Brittany Williams	Justin Woodworth	Kate Woodworth	Richard Yocum	Wayne York	Beth Young (Silvernail)

Please Note: Let Pastor Jim know of any changes and/or additions. Their name, Status or condition and your name. Please use the cards in the pews.

Support your local Fire Department!

Don't forget the spaghetti dinner on the fourth Saturday of every month! Meal consists of Spaghetti, Meatballs, Salad and dessert.

All the proceeds go to purchase fire department needs. Please consider joining the ladies auxiliary to help. You could join as a part time helper or a full time member. Remember—Many hands make light work!

Call Laura Walsh at 330 978 9683

Or Kim Lagen at 330 889 2964 for details!

COMMUNITY PARK AND SWING SET PROJECT

Expansion and improvement plans for our village playground (situated on the corner of Park and Grove Streets – behind the church) include the addition of a 4 seat 10 ft. tall swing set and the addition of rubber mulch to the entire play area. The village has set aside money for the mulch but we, the people of the village and surrounding area, are being asked to make donations for the swing set. The cost is \$1513 plus shipping and handling. Many of us would like to see even more items added to the play area and see the swing set as just the next step. Donations may be made at each of the village businesses and at the WF UM Church. Checks should be addressed to WF Village and marked “swing set”. We, the Church Council, and I, as pastor, are fully behind this project. Help us make this extremely important investment in the quality of life for our children and grandchildren. Pastor Jim.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 6	Kyle Boyk
April 6	David Bongrager
April 7	Mya Sotera
April 9	Shirley Williams
April 12	Starr Spangler
April 14	Tim Mitton
April 17	Jane Bailey
April 17	Nathaniel Metheny
April 20	Haley Spangler
April 23	Taylor Amato
April 24	Marilyn Young
April 28	Bill List
April 29	Betty Fluharty

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 5	John and Lisa Spelich
April 8	Paul David and Eileen Hurd
April 30	Robert and Roxanne Gorman

APRIL GREETERS

April 3	Bob & Renee Stevens
April 10	Jim & Starr Spangle
April 17	Ken & Kim Stevens
April 24	Gary & Pat Watts



Army:

Josh Berg; Bill Stewart; Lindsey Romack Canete; Felix Canete Jr.; Gregory Clisby; Josh Hall; Philip Lancaster; Mark Mahon; Tammy Rodriguez; Justin Loza; Grant & Haley Crandall

Navy: Kris Stribling; Tim Walker **Air Force:** Mychael Bulford; Erik McIntosh; Brian Hray

Marine: Phil Rabadeux; Cory Reed; Daniel Nellis Jr.; **Army Reserves:** **Marine Reserves:** Ryan Romack; activated

MI National Guard: Jim Richards Jr.; **Coast Guard:** Alfonso Estades

Dear Bill,

Despite the impassioned efforts of patriots around the country, the United States Supreme Court has ruled in favor of the Westboro Baptist Church's right to protest at military funerals deciding its demonstrations are protected by the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment.

In response, VFW National Commander Richard L. Eubank had this to say:

"The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. thanks the Supreme Court for considering the case, but is greatly disappointed with the result. The Westboro Baptist Church may think they have won, but the VFW will continue to support community efforts to ensure no one hears their voice, because the right to free speech does not trump a family's right to mourn in private." The VFW would like to thank you for your help spreading the word about the landmark case and your caring support of Mr. Snyder at such a difficult time.

*Note: Tomorrow is the fifth anniversary of the death of Albert Snyder's son, Marine Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Snyder. Please remember the Snyder family in your thoughts and prayers.

Tell a Friend <<http://heroes.vfw.org/> Facebook icon <<http://heroes.vfw.org>

VFW

The Poetry Corner

"The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month."

- Henry Van Dyke, *Fisherman's Luck*, 1899