

West Farmington
United Methodist Church
THE COURIER – January 2011



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Note from the Pastor:

It's all my fault! – I told Sharon not to publish the newsletter until after we had our meeting (Administrative Council, PPR, & Trustees) with our District Superintendent, Dave Scavuzzo, this past Monday. So blame the Pastor, NOT the newsletter staff for this being late.

How we approach this year in ministry was going to be directly related to the outcome of that meeting and I wanted to start the year with a definite plan in mind. Dave's purpose in coming was to review our financial picture as a church to see if we could in fact continue to support a full time appointment at WFUMC. If not, our other options were to yoke with another church, or to go to a part time appointment.

Dave was very complimentary and supportive of the work we have done this past year. We caught up on several thousand dollars in arrearages to the Conference and we were able to finish the year at 61% of our apportionment paid. With no increase in the overall budget for 2011, the elimination of back dept (arrearages), and the continued effort to grow the church, he felt we should be able to continue with our current arrangement. So, he will recommend to the Bishop and his Cabinet that the appointment stay as is for another year at WFUMC. The challenge to us is still there, though. The "cost" of a full time clergy will continue to go up (healthcare and salary as I continue on my path towards ordination) and we are not really "Big Enough" unless we strive to grow. But our desire to grow is not rooted in finances but in our mission: "To make and mature Disciples of Christ so we can transform our community." We must want to grow because we have this great message and gift from God, and we can't wait to share it with everyone we know and see.

Dave gave us two great illustrations to help us as we go forward into the New Year. His father, Rudy (who is in critical condition in the hospital), said that his job as a parent was not to make sure his kids were "happy" but that they were "good." Dave sees his job as a District Superintendent (and it's really the same for my job as Pastor) in the same way. We, as spiritual leaders, are not here to make everyone "happy" but to try to make sure everyone is "good." Good meaning that we are all doing and following the mission that God has given us to do. Rudy also pointed out that his rear view mirror on his car is about 1/50th the size of his windshield. And from that analogy we should be spending the vast majority of our time looking forward

New Series In Our Church - GriefShare

Have you or someone you know lost a loved one in the last year or so? A new series coming to our church in January may be just what you need. The series is called GriefShare. It is part of an international ministry to those who are grieving. The series features a weekly video/discussion/share time. The sessions will be led by Pastor Shirley Stoops-Frantz, who has led many of these sessions in the last ten years. Pastor Jim will be assisting her, along with Vicky Harklerode and Shirley's husband, Allen.

Each session begins with a 30-40 minute video, utilizing testimonies and advice and affirmation from some of America's leading counselors in the field. Most of the names will be those you have heard before. Following the video, the group will explore the topic of the evening, with opportunity for input. There is no requirement to talk, but the video and discussion will be beneficial for everyone.

Some of the video topics include "When Your Dreams Fall Apart," "The Seasons of Grief" and "Growing through Grief." The series will last ten weeks, but each session is self-contained, meaning there is no attendance requirement.

Refreshments will be available each evening, provided by the host church. There is no charge for the series, but we will accept a donation toward the required workbook.

The first session is from **6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, January 9** in the church dining room. We will meet each Sunday evening.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Shirley at 330-889-3894 or Pastor Jim.

Fact: Fear Of Long Words

A fear of long words is, ironically called "Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia"

<http://www.randomfactsuselesstrivia.com/random-facts/random-word-phrase-facts-1.html>



Army:

Mark Adams; Josh Berg; Bill Stewart; Lindsey Romack Canete; Felix Canete Jr.; Gregory Clisby; Isaac Ralston; Ken Goddard; Josh Hall; Philip Lancaster; Mark Mahon; Tammy Rodriguez; Reed Sutliff; Justin Loza; Anthony Wojtonek; Grant & Haley Crandall

Navy:

Kris Stribling; Tim Walker

Air Force:

Mychael Bulford; Erik McIntosh; A.J. Musial; Brian Hray

Marine:

Phil Rabadeux; Kris & Cory Reed; Daniel Nellis Jr.;

Army Reserves:

Charles Cross;

Marine Reserves:

Ryan Romack; activated

MI National Guard:

Jim Richards Jr.;

Coast Guard:

Alfonso Estades

Fact: Ketchup

Ketchup has not always been made out of tomatoes. It started out as a general term for sauce, typically made of mushrooms or fish brine with herbs and spices. Mushroom ketchup is still available in some countries, such as the UK. Some popular early main ingredients include anchovy, oyster, lobster, walnut, kidney bean, cucumber, cranberry, lemon, and grape.

<http://www.randomfactsuselesstrivia.com/random-facts/>

and ahead, not spending all of our time looking back and remembering how it used to be. It is still important to look back, but we can't stay there as there is much to see coming ahead.

Dave encouraged us to try new things along with some of the old. He is especially encouraged with our Kids Klub, our using projection in worship, and our continued efforts to offer new programming. We need to be continually developing new ideas and ways to reach outside our walls so that we really are making a difference in transforming our community. "We can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us." (Philippians 4:13).

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing!!!

Happy New Year

Pastor Jim

Military Updates

Daniel Nellis Jr. (grandson of Ralph and the late Lu Nellis) is back stateside safe and sound from his special maneuvers in Afghanistan. He is stationed at Camp LeJune, N. C. and is now going for specialized training and when that is completed he will be applying for a position as an Embassy guard. He has made the decision to stay in the military as his life's career.

We also received word late in November that the Canete family---Felix and Lindsey-- became proud parents on November 14, 2010 of a beautiful little girl called Mackenzie Joyce. Parents are doing well and baby is just fine. All new babies are special and precious, but this little girl is extra special; she was named for her late great grandmother and my late sister--Joyce Rowland. Beautiful tribute for a beautiful person.

Carol Goddard

Our Friends in Need of Prayer

W. Farmington UMC Prayer Marker –Dec. 26, 2010

Recently Hospitalized: Kathy Granados

Special Needs:

Please remember our shut ins.

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

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Ernestine Woodford Clearview Lanter Suites 596 Champion Ave W #206 Warren, OH 44483 | Marjorie Heil 5600 Larson Rd W. Farmington, OH | John Fluharty 1140 S. Main SW Warren OH 44485 |
|--|--|---|

Our Friends in Need of Prayer

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| David Albrecht | Sherry Desenberg | Justine Pickett |
| Bryce | Haley Dorshock | Kyle Quinn Jr. |
| Susan Ardlen | Beau Freeman | Kim Roseblossom |
| Jerry Armstrong | Jackie Gingerich | Mike Shinosky |
| Issac Atkins | Katherine (Cleer) | Katlin Smith |
| Mary Beechy | Heikle | Elise Sprong |
| Esther Burr | Dale Hickox | Tootsie Stephens |
| Doug Byers | Evelyn Hinkle | Julie Sternagle |
| Jeff Cape | Dona Hites | Holly Fusselman |
| Joan Chambers | Katy Hites | Walker |
| Ray Chambers | Billy & Sharon | Chad Webb |
| Matt Chandler | Hodges | Reagen Whiting |
| Eddie Chiudioni | James Hungerford | Remington Whiting |
| Ed Cleer | Jesse Jilg | Brittany Williams |
| Michael Cleer | Margret Klinger | Justin Woodworth |
| Erma Coffey | Blanche Marcello | Kate Woodworth |
| Michael Cross | Judy McKenna | Tom Woolf |
| Ray Cross | Leann Miller | Brian Woods |
| Shirley Cross | Ellie Musial | Richard Yocum |
| Tom Darno | Rick Padavan | Wayne York |

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.

Tuesday night Bible Study: “The Life You’ve Always Wanted” by John Ortberg.

If you suspect there is more to Christianity than what you’ve experienced, then join us on a road to transformation and spiritual vigor that anyone can take. Our lives are more like marathon races, not sprints. We need to develop spiritual disciplines and exercises that will strengthen us and give us the endurance to make it on the long road of spiritual growth. Join us on Tuesday nights at 7 pm at the parsonage for this video/scripture/discussion study.

Wednesday morning Bible Study: “The Prayers of Jesus” by Matt Williams.

Prayer was the backbone of Jesus’ life and ministry. What can we learn from the prayers he prayed? This in-depth look at the prayers of Jesus will give us new insights into prayer, the character of God, and how to deepen your relationship with Him. Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10am at the parsonage.

Up Coming Greeters

| | |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 1/2 | Linda & Bruce Vogler |
| 1/9 | Mary Fasulo & Carol Hickox |
| 1/16 | Ann Hillier & Janie Bailey |
| 1/23 | Gary & Pat Watts |
| 1/30 | Judy & Larry DeFabrizo |
| 2/6 | Jim & Starr Spangler |
| 2/13 | Denise McDowell |
| 2/20 | Sharon VanDervort |
| 2/27 | Laverne Christlieb |
| 3/6 | John & Nancy Brandon |
| 3/13 | Jackie, Jack & Emily Mitton |
| 3/20 | Pam Monroe |
| 3/27 | Carol Jean Goddard |

Prayer and Blessing for a New Year: (which I took from one of my on-line devotionals)

Lord,

There are many uncertainties in our world but what matters most will never change. *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8.*

We believe You are with us, for us, and surrounding us with Your love. *So do not fear, for I am with you... I will strengthen you and help you. Isaiah 41:10*

No matter what happens, You will guide us and fulfill Your purposes for us. *He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6*

Even in hard times we can be confident that we will have victory through you. *In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. Romans 8:37*

We trust you will take care of us and bless us in more ways than we can imagine.

God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

We give each moment and every day to You. Most of all, we give ourselves too.

Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 5:10

Lord - We pray that You would give us joy to fill our days, peace to fill our hearts, and love to fill our lives. Thank You for the plans You have for us in this new year. We wait in anticipation to see all You will do!

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Amen.

--by Holley Gerth, Day Spring Devotions

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|--------|--------------------|
| Jan 1 | Lenora Geist |
| Jan 2 | Peggy Lauth |
| Jan 5 | Barbara Hurst |
| Jan 5 | Florence Satterlee |
| Jan 5 | Linda Vogler |
| Jan 7 | Gary Watts |
| Jan 7 | Shane Young |
| Jan 11 | Brandy Burbach |
| Jan 12 | Lindsey Lenney |
| Jan 13 | Judy DeFabrizio |
| Jan 18 | Pastor Jim George |
| Jan 19 | Mitty Smith |
| Jan 21 | Dorothy Anthony |
| Jan 23 | Traci Crites |
| Jan 28 | Mike Young |
| Jan 30 | Lynne Provance |
| Jan 31 | Ken Stevens |

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|-------|---------------------|
| Jan 4 | Joe & Dorothy Cleer |
| Jan 2 | Lloyd & Barb Adams |

January Birth Flower

The January Birth Flower is the Carnation

Meaning of the January Birth Flower:

The general meaning of the January Birth Flower, the Carnation is love, fascination, and distinction

January Birthstone: The Garnet

Characteristics of Capricorn :

Stable, Trustworthy, Persistent, Ambitious & Patient

Support your local Fire Department!

The Ladies Auxiliary will be selling pizza rolls in January. Look for signs to contact Laura Walsh or Kim Largen to support the fundraiser.

The Ladies Auxiliary needs your help! There are many ways that you can help to support our local fire department.

There are fundraisers throughout the year including the monthly Spaghetti dinner which is held the fourth Saturday of every month except for the months of December and January.

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 Largen at 330 889 2964 for details!

Support Your Local Fire Department!

National Hugging Day

<http://www.holidayinsights.com/other/huggingday.htm>

When: Always January 21st

What a great day! This is an opportunity to give and to receive. Give a hug, and you automatically receive one in return. Sure, someone might not hug back. But, how often does that happen!?!

Hugs are loving. Hugs are therapeutic. Hugs are caring. Hugs are celebratory. Hugs make you feel good inside. Have you ever received a hug from someone who didn't care? I didn't think so. That's proof positive that you're loved and cared about.

Celebrate today by giving hugs to family, friends and loved ones. You'll love the warm feeling you get.

The Poetry Corner

If you have written a poem or have a favorite poem feel free to submit it to

SharonVanDervort@aol.com

[**WFChurchnews@aol.com**](mailto:WFChurchnews@aol.com)

T'was the month after Christmas, and all through the house,
nothing would fit me, not even a blouse;
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I had to taste,
at the holiday parties had gone to my waist;

When I got on the scales there arose such a number!
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber),
I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd prepared,
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared;

The wine and the rum balls; the bread and the cheese,
and the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."
As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt,
and prepared once again to do battle with dirt,
I said to myself, as only I can,
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man!"

So, away with the last of the sour cream dip.
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip.
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished,
'til all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie--not even a lick.
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore,
But isn't that what January is for?
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot.
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!

Author Unknown

W. Farmington Assembly #116 participates in fall projects

W. Farmington Assembly #116 of Burton, Ohio of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls is getting a little chilly! Under the leadership of Katie Nevison as Worthy Advisor, the assembly has participated in many social and service activities during her Polar Escape themed fall term. The girls are working hard to see who will win the Artic vs. the Antarctic membership competition.

We welcomed three new members into our assembly this year. Rachael Bickford and Sara Sieckowski of W. Farmington and Audrey Drago of Middlefield. We had a visitation from the Grand Worthy Advisor, Miss Erin Dauber, of Middletown. We are so proud of our Grand Confidential Observer, Miss Katie Nevison.

The girls held their Founder's Day picnic at the Crystal Lake Picnic Grove, attended DeMolay Conclave, participated in the Farmington Festival parade where we won 1st place for our float, worked at the Farmington Festival and Geauga County Fair, had a promotional display at the Geauga County Fair, held a bake sale and promotional table at the Burton Car Show, attended the Liberty Masonic Complex picnic, and played a game of formal putt-putt. The assembly went horseback riding, held their annual Halloween party, served refreshments for Clover #201 OES and Village Lodge installations, held a scrapbook sleepover and go-to-church Sunday, donated canned goods to the Burton Community Church and gloves & mittens to the Bristol School, volunteered at the Diabetes Step Out Walk, attended the DeMolay Holiday dance, rang the bell for the Salvation Army, and hosted our annual Christmas party.

Our assembly is busy raising money for the statewide service project of Honor Flights which provides a trip to Washington DC for our Veterans to visit the memorials. The state's goal is to raise \$10,000 to send one plane to DC. Our girls have already raised \$75 by raking leaves and collecting donations.

Visit us online at www.mastermason.com/WFarmington116. If you know a girl between the ages of 11 and 19 who wants to give service to her community and make lots of friends contact our Mother Advisor, Roxanne York, at (330) 240-5116 or Roxanne44@yahoo.com. We also have Iris Pledge group for girls ages 7 to 10.

Submitted by:
Roxanne York – Mother Advisor

DENISE'S stop, shop and crop dates:

RSVP is required.

**SAT Jan 15, Feb 19, Mar 19, April 16, May 21st, June 18th
9:30am-9:30pm**

**West Farmington Methodist Church, 220 College St,
West Farmington, OH 44491.**

\$15 per person. 12 hours of digital or traditional scrapbooking. Bring a pot luck dish to pass and we will order dinner if you want to join in. Cost includes beverages, gifts, training, fun and friends. **COME SEE ALL OF OUR NEW PRODUCTS.**

**FRIDAY 1/2 day crop, Jan 14th, Feb 18, Mar 18, April 15th,
9:30am-2:30pm,**

West Farmington Methodist church.... Cost \$8 includes beverages and gifts, training and much more.. I want to do these Friday crops before the digital classes.. Want to come Fri and Sat? Leave your stuff and come back for both crops for \$20.

RSVP IS REQUIRED>>I have to have 3 to have this crop.

DENISE'S Digital Diva CLASS-

RSVP is required., Fri Jan 14th, Feb 18th, Mar 18th, April 15th, May 20th, June 17th, 5:30PM-10:30PM

West Farmington Methodist Church, 220 College St, West Farmington, OH

\$10 per person. We are having a great time learning the software. Don't have time to traditional scrapbook but want to preserve your memories? Let me show you our digital line. Make birthday cards, invitations, calenders, photo storybooks, mugs, mousepads, and much more. Call me for a private class for you and your friends if you can't join us here...Want to join us to work on your traditional products. RSVP today to crop with us.

Denise

Denise McDowell

Photo Solutions Specialist

(440) 548-8645 ~ cell 330-720-3028

scrapwithdenise@aol.com

CM ID# 51938748

UMW News

There were nine members present at the December 2010 meeting; Mary Fasulo, Carol Hickox, Carol Jean Goddard, Joyce List, Florence Satterlee, Verona George, Dorothy Cleer, Renee Stevens, and Shirley Cross. Shirley read to us from the Bible and Upper Room. Joyce led us in a discussion about how we celebrate Christmas. It was reported that we made \$955.00 on Mrs. Claus' Closet. The supplies for the eggs have been ordered. We will start the last week of January. Election of officers was held. President; Verona George, with Carol Hickox to take over if they are relocated, vice president; Carl Jean Goddard, a secretary is needed as Dorothy has served the four years allowed, treasurer; Renee Stevens and Chaplain; Joyce List. Secret sister names were exchanged for next year. The meeting was adjourned and a nice brunch was hosted by Verona. We then exchanged secret sister gifts and revealed who we had for the year. A wonderful time was had by all. Please come join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:30 in the Church social hall.

Share-A-Christmas

We would like to thank you for helping us help others. Our Share-A-Christmas event was a success again this year. Thanks to you we were able to bring together those who have a need and those who wish to give.

Over the past four years we as a church, with the help of the community, the local stores, the Harkelrode Foundation and the VFW have helped over 61 families at Christmas time.

Thanks for your continued support.

Sharon VanDervort and Vickie Harkelrode

BONTRAGER'S GROCERY RELOCATED

Sharon VanDervort

I visited our local store owners Kevin and Julie Bontrager at Bontrager's Grocery in their new location this week. It was fun to visit the old Bland's Store on College Street and see the improvements that Kevin and Julie have worked hard to accomplish. It is exciting that the grocery store is back where it should be, where we all remember it being. There are many memories walking over that old wooden floor. It was nice to see some of the old furnishings in the new layout. Kevin and Julie have a great decorating design going on in the store and have future plans of a pizza oven and other hot foods, a deli counter and other improvements. The plans can be initiated once the sewer project is completed. The decorations laid out for viewing consist of Farmington Furniture chairs displayed on the back wall; the chairs were made at the old chair factory here in Farmington. There are also Satterlee crocks and old wooden fruit crates. In addition, on display are Farmington High memorabilia from many different time periods including a couple of jerseys, a Farmington High letterman jacket and a 1985 volleyball banner. They are using shelves from the old school library and they have the original Schwebels door push from Blands store displayed inside. Also exhibited is a Blands calendar from the 80's. The memorabilia items have come from various sources; some of the memorabilia was donated from the senior center for the public to appreciate. If you or someone you know has old Farmington items and would like to display them contact Kevin and Julie Bontrager at the store. They would be happy to display your items for you. Stop in at the new store and check out the scenery, grab a gallon of milk or whatever you need and don't forget to Shop Local!