



The Good News Letter

Ovilla United Methodist Church

February 21, 2012

A Great Day in the Kingdom!

Have you given anything up for Lent? While some have attended the Ash Wednesday service, many each year fail to participate in this exercise of discipleship. We are not only called to give up something until Jesus is resurrected, but to add something to our spiritual practices, as well.

Ash Wednesday reminds us that we are called to not only repent, but realize that we are simply mortals. Mortality sets us all on equal footing in God's world. This year, I am asking you to give up something that is a real sacrifice. Giving up broccoli and brussel sprouts are not a sacrifice and eating more chocolate is not something we need to add, in order to honor God.

There is a third task I am asking of you during this Lenten season. It requires us to perform a generous act of self-giving love to someone in your midst. Remember, we are embarking on our journey together in order to celebrate the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus. He gave all of himself for us. We must learn to give of self, in repetition.

Think of Lent as a tune-up in your discipleship. If you are unable to attend the Ash Wednesday Service of worship, come by my office and I will impose the ashes on your forehead.

Love and Blessings in Christ!!!

Pastor Joel

(Proud to be the pastor of Ovilla UMC, the most prolific, dynamic, motivated, evangelistic United Methodist Church in all of God's Kingdom)

Matthew 28!!!



MISSION MOMENTUM



We know it's only February, but it is supposed to be winter! A good time to stay put and clean out cabinets and closets! Save all your "quality junk" for our Missions Garage Sale. The date has been set for April 21, 2012. We can now store some of these items if you are unable to do so. Call Marcie Mayer at 972- 617- 0347 or her cell @ 214- 458 -6794 or Peggy Schieffer @ 972-223-9351.

With the winter doldrums, we have time to dust off our thinking caps and come up with new ideas. The Missions committee has a new project: "Help our Vets". We will be collecting items for our vets who are taking chemo or undergoing dialysis at the VA Hospital in Dallas. A large tub will be in the foyer to collect the following items:

- Lap quilts (no smaller than 45"x45")
- Toboggan hats
- Snacks: applesauce, crackers, etc...
- # 10 envelopes
- Small writing tablets and pens

Mark your calendars for an Adult mission trip to Glen Lake Camp. It is scheduled for May 4-6, 2012. We will be doing projects to ready the camp for summer activities. There will be something for everyone to do.

Praise God! Our sewing group has completed 150 school bags for UMCOR. A United Methodist Church in Granbury will be delivering them to Sager Brown when they make their mission trip.

On February 8, an industrious 8+ workers headed to the Baptist Children's Home in Waxahachie. We cleaned and organized their kitchen. Next month on March 14 we are scheduled to help organize their library.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS

1. Campbell soup labels and box tops for education for McCurdy School in New Mexico. Our goal for this year is 6000. Keep clipping.
2. Used cell phones for Brighter Tomorrows. These phones are used by victims of abuse to call 911.
3. Deodorant (male or female), shampoo and toothpaste for North Ellis County Outreach in Red Oak. We could use more deodorants!
 4. Items listed above for VA Vets
5. Coupons for QX....Come and clip on Wed. in Fellowship Hall.
6. Children's books for the Baptist Children's home in Waxahachie

Mission Momentum continued...

ONGOING MISSION ACTIVITIES

1. Wednesdays @ 5PM-come join the QX clippers!
2. March 7 – Manna House in Midlothian, 10 AM until noon
3. March 14-Baptist Children's Home, 629 Farley St. in Waxahachie, 10am to 12 noon
4. March 29 – Missions meeting, Classroom #3, 7PM
5. April 21 –OUMC Annual Missions Garage Sale, 8am until 2pm
 6. May 4-6 Adult Mission Trip to Glen Lake Camp
7. May 13 – retired missionaries, Jerri and Bill Savuto to preach and teach

Senior Fellowship News

Join us for Senior Fellowship on Thursday, March 1st at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will play board games, have a brief meeting and devotion, and have potluck. Bring your favorite dish and bring a friend.

Ladies Bible Study to Be Offered

A Tuesday morning ladies Bible study will begin March 6 and will go through April 10, 2012. We will be studying Women of the Old Testament by Gladys Hunt. The books will cost about \$7.20 and will be payable on the 6th. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. Nita Kees will be the facilitator. We have already taken up the sign-up sheet, but if you would really want to attend, please see Nita Kees.

Baby Shower for Claire Taylor

What are little boys made of?
Frogs and snails
and puppy-dogs' tails. That's what little boys are made of.

Join us for a baby shower honoring Claire Taylor on Saturday, March 3rd at 2:00 p.m. in the Children's & Youth Building

Claire is registered at
Target & Babies R Us

Music Ministries

Nine wonderful singers and many supportive parents were present for the first children's choir rehearsal at 4:30 pm on Sunday, February 12th. It is my hope that we will be able to begin a Cherub Choir as well, but we need many volunteers to make that work. If you are interested in leading or helping to lead this group please let me know so we can get started. For now we will practice the school age children in one group, but ideally it would be good to have two groups so that we can give each group music more suited to their age. I would also like to give a special thanks to Sunday Pirkle for her help with this new ministry.

If you know of brass players who would be available for our Traditional Worship service on Easter Sunday morning please let me know. We need 2 trombone players or 1 trombone and 1 tuba player. I believe we have the 2 trumpet players and french horn player secured, but it would be good to have other names in case we need them.

Several people have asked why the hymns are not shown on the screen during second service. We are looking into the purchase of a program which will make this possible. Thank you for your patience as we work out the details in this area.

Special thanks to James Riddick for his many efforts to make the music ministry all that it can be. If you have skills in sound and lighting technology and operation I am certain you could find a place to serve in this area.

As always I am looking forward to new members joining our music ministry. Please consider ringing, singing or both.

May God give you a song!

Marcia

Wedding Shower for Jamie Prewitt & Brent Hilburn

WEDDING SHOWER INVITATION

For Jamie Prewitt and Brent Hilburn

Saturday, March 10, 2012 from 2-4pm

It will be held in the Youth Building

They are registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond and Target

Hosted by Terrie Barton, Beth Griffin, Shelia Allison, Marcie Mayer and Cindy Dormier

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Ash Wednesday Service – Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We **WILL NOT** have any of our other Wednesday night activities.

Lord's Acre Meeting – Thursday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. if you would like to eat.

Cemetery Association Meeting – Thursday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in Sunday school room #2.

Youth Mid-Winter Retreat – Saturday, February 25th and Sunday, February 26th at Glen Lake Camp. See Patrick Turkett for details.

Children's Choir practice – Sunday, February 26th at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Awana's Boot Camp Training – Sunday, February 26th from 1:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Sunday school room #2.

QC Coupon Clipping – Wednesday, February 29th at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Church Meal & Bible Study – Wednesday, February 29th. Meal is at 5:30 p.m. and Bible study is right after at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Awana's – Wednesday, February 29th in the Youth Building from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. For children from age 2 to grade 6.

Senior Fellowship – Thursday, March 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Baby Shower for Claire Taylor – Saturday, March 3rd at 2:00 p.m. in the Youth Building. Everyone is invited.

Confirmation Class – Sunday, March 4th at 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Children's Choir practice – Sunday, March 4th at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Ladies Quilting Group – Monday, March 5th at 6:30 p.m. in Sunday school room #2.

Ladies Bible Study – Tuesday, March 6th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Trustees Meeting – Tuesday, March 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Missions Workday at Manna House – Wednesday, March 7th at 10:00 a.m. in Midlothian.

QC Coupon Clipping – Wednesday, March 7th at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Church Meal & Bible Study – Wednesday, March 7th. Meal is at 5:30 p.m. and Bible study is right after at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Awana's – Wednesday, March 7th in the Youth Building from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. For children from age 2 to grade 6.

From the Youth Director

Last week we took our students along with several other adults out to the UTA Wesley Foundation Chili Cook Off. Thanks to all those that made it out to support that ministry and eat lots of chili. This week we will be back on our normal FUEL and small group schedule. We are in session 3 of our "Lovesick" series and this will be one that your students will not want to miss! In March, we will begin a series on Spiritual Disciplines. Parents, you should be receiving and email from about our series, including parent cues.

We have 10 students and 3 adults leaving this weekend for the Conference Mid-Winter Youth Retreat. They will be there all-day Saturday and Sunday, please keep them in your prayers.

Blessings,

Patrick Turkett
Ovilla UMC, Youth Director
patrick.turkett@gmail.com

Attention New Members

If you have joined the church in either service and are not pictured in our current directory please allow Marcia, (the Music Director), to take a picture for the bulletin board. She is available right after the first service and before or after second service.

Women's Fellowship

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING
OVILLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2012

The meeting was called to order by the President, Millie Burch. A blessing for the meal and meeting was given by Wilda Cross. Mary Beth Granzow and Beverly Thompson provided a meal consisting of lasagna, salad, garlic toast, Red Velvet Cake, and chocolate dipped strawberries.

After the meal, a very brief business meeting was held. Lois Turner, treasurer, distributed a report which showed that there had been no financial activity during the month of January. Some suggestions for future programs, which included gardening advice and entertainment for the ice cream social and a presentation by

Melissa about her missionary work, were presented.

Janet Stringfellow, Sunshine Chairperson, indicated that she had sent out only one card during January. She asked that the Ladies of Ovilla United Methodist Church please keep her informed of people that could use a card.

After the brief meeting, Millie Burch introduced our guest speaker, Beverly Thompson. Beverly has written her first book, *The Colonel Is a Lady*. The book chronicles the life of Evangela "Jamie" Jameson, a retired Army nurse.

Beverly presented some of the highlights from her book.

Jamie served during World War II, during the Korean War, and in Viet Nam. She retired from the Army with the rank of Lt. Colonel. She was instrumental in raising funds and spearheading the Women's Viet Nam War Memorial in Washington, DC.

After her presentation, Beverly was available for signing her book.

Women's Fellowship will meet next month on Thursday, March 6, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. Come join with us; come enjoy with us.

Missions Garage Sale Coming Soon!

OUMC's Annual Missions Garage Sale is Saturday, April 21st

Get those closets and cupboards cleaned out, box it up, and call either Marcie Mayer or Peggy Schieffer to get access to the storage facility. We can store all good items until the sale at our mini-warehouse on Ovilla Road. Call Marcie at 972-617-0347 or 214-458-6794 or Peggy at 972-223-9351.

Thanks!!!

Peggy Schieffer

Calling All Quilters (or Quilter Want-a-Bee's!)

The OUMC Quilters are seeking volunteers who are interested in helping with our 2012 Lord's Acre quilt(s). Experience is not necessary; we will provide on-the-job training. We are doing a preliminary inquiry to gather names of interested individuals and find the days and times most convenient for you.

In the past OUMC had a group of quilters who met regularly and worked on quilts that were sold or raffled at Lord's Acre; this group disbanded for various reasons. We were successful in reestablishing the OUMC Quilter group last year. The group completed a quilt that was raffled and earned approximately \$1,500 for Lord's Acre.

If you are interested in being a part of the OUMC Quilters group please call or email Lois Turner at 972-217-6706, or email jimandloisturner@att.net. You may also contact Cindy Dormier or Nancy Harsch with any questions you might have.

Thank you and hope to hear from you soon.

2012 Lord's Acre Meeting

Lord's Acre is just around the corner!!

Our kick off meeting is scheduled for 7PM on Thursday, February 23rd. EVERYONE is needed at this meeting, so we can discuss this year's event. Bring your new ideas/suggestions, and be thinking where you wish to serve.

Thanks,
Riley and Cheryl Sullivan

Sunday School Information

K-5 (meets in the Youth building): Led by our great band of volunteers. Currently studying: **Pre-school** is learning: (no information submitted.) Our **K – 5th Grade:** (no information submitted.)

Crossroads C lass (singles; meets in Pastor Joel's office): Led by Bob Green. Currently studying: a book entitled, '8 Biblical Role Models: They Were Single Too.'

College Age class (college age ; meets in the comfy classroom by the kitchen): Led by JoAnn Leath. Currently studying: NOOMA Video Series by Rob Bell. Jesus lived with the awareness that God is doing something, right here, right now, and anybody can be a part of it. He encouraged his listeners to search, to question, to wrestle with the implications of what he was saying and doing. He inspired, challenged, provoked, comforted, and invited people to be open to God's work in this world. Wherever he went, whatever he did, Jesus started discussions about what matters most, because for Jesus, God is always inviting us to open our eyes and join in. **NOOMA** is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. **NOOMA** is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion.

Junior high (grades 6-8; meets in the Youth building): Led by Lori Green. Currently studying: (no information submitted.)

Senior High (grades 9-12; meets in the back room of the Youth building): Led by Jim Bob Green. Currently studying: Song of Songs". Ever wonder why the Bible gives us so much direction on life but says so little about romantic relationships? Actually it does. In fact there is a whole book in the Bible dedicated to what a Godly guy/girl relationship should be like. This is a very important topic for todays youth so I encourage you to attend or if you are a parent reading this, PLEASE make getting your kiddo to Sunday School each Sunday, especially the next 2-3 weeks a high priority."

Fellow Seekers adult class (meets in the front classroom in the Fellowship Hall): Led by Grant Jacobs and Don Lindop. Currently studying: God Establishes a Faithful People: God's Redemption, Fruits of Redemption.

Contemporary Topics adult class (meets in Education building, room #1): Led by different class members. Currently studying: (no information submitted.)

Time Out adult class (meets in Education building, room #3) : Led by various class members. Currently studying: Current Christian Topics.

New Life adult class (meets in Education building, room #2): Led by Jim Turner. Currently studying: The Book of Acts. Adults of any age are welcome in this class.

Friendship adult class (meets in Education building, room #4): Led by Rick Hart. Currently studying: "Faith and the Founding of America." A video series by historian and author David Barton is the basis for discussion that our Christian heritage is at the root of American liberty and freedom, not a separation from God.

Joys and Concerns

To be on our prayer list, please call the church office with the name and reason for joy or concern. Names are rotated off every few weeks so that we have room for everyone's needs.

2-5-12

2-12-12

Ongoing

Donnie Pickard – Ovilla Fire Chief – health issues
Jan Brooks – recuperating from surgery/health issues
Rita Junco – cousin of Kathy Ivanovskis – facing cancer and is recently unemployed
Katy Duncan – friend of Joel & Christie Robbins – fighting 2 forms of cancer
Bob Green – taking chemotherapy, prognosis is very good.
Kathy Dickey & Family – Passing of Mike Dickey
Dyrk Burcie – friend of Tommy McKee – little boy with cancer
Billy Sullivan – son of Riley Sullivan
Laura Abbott – District Admin. Asst. – on leave of absence for stage IV cancer
Recovery efforts in Japan
Roger Hilburn – still taking chemotherapy
Estell Griffin – David Griffin's mom
Chad Jackson – health issues
Jim & Louise Garner – health issues
Robert Strafford – Jennifer McKee's dad – continued healing for heart trouble
Del and Cindy Jones – health issues and adjusting to new way of life

Home Bound

Dorothy Pope

Church Ministries

Jerri & Bill Savuto – retired UMC missionaries
Haiti recovery ministries

Military

Michael Mercado, Michael Winn, Harry Evans, Steven Culley, Brian Culley,
Brandon Boyce, John David Dirk, Bobby Hodge, Audrey Webster, Stan Murphy,
Freddie Shoemaker, Cody McKee, Gregory Austin, Casey Joshua Booth, Blake
Womack, Matthew Bustos

Help Wanted!

Attention Pew and Foyer Maintenance Team:

If you are looking for a place to serve in the congregation there is an area that could use more helpers. After services on Sunday the pews should be straightened, books put back, bulletins picked up and put in the recycle box in the choir robing room and trash put in the trash can. About every other week the paper supplies and pencils need to be checked. If you are willing to help with this, keeping the foyer clean and changing out the altar cloths please let me know. We have never set a regular schedule for doing this work and it would be a good thing to have a group of people to do these duties. Please let me know if you are willing to help in this area, when you are available to work, and I will show you where the supplies are located.

Thank you,

Marcia Haugarth

Attention Bulletin Folders/Those Wishing to Help Fold Bulletins,

We have several folks that helped fold bulletins last year that have had to drop out for 2012 for one reason or another. We are looking for more volunteers. We rotate you where you only have to fold no more than once a month. You may sign up as an individual or get your whole family in on the fun. Bulletins are usually ready by Thursday afternoon. You just need to pick them up and have them back at the church folded by early service on Sunday mornings. We currently fold 200 bulletins for Sunday mornings.

If you would be interested please contact Michelle Davis at 4dranch02@att.net or 972-723-6370. Thank you!

Wednesday Night Meal Coordinator Position

We are looking for someone to coordinate our Wednesday night meals. This person makes sure we have plenty of folks signed up, makes sure food is ordered and ready for our Wednesday night crowd if no one is signed up. You are reimbursed for your costs. If this is a ministry that you would like to serve in in any capacity please call the church office at 972-617-8840. Thank you.

VBS 2012 - Amazing Desert Journey!!!



Are you ready for an adventure? Join us this summer for an
Amazing Desert Journey!

Mark your calendars:

VBS is June 25 - 29th, 5:30 - 8:30pm

To lead our kids on this journey of faith, we need storytellers, Bible challengers, song leaders, snack helpers, game leaders, crafters, actors, preschool coordinators, and caravan navigators. We also need help decorating, preparing meals, registering the kids, and providing technical support.

Please email Debra Cowger at:
ddcowger10@att.net

if you would like to be a part of this exciting week.

VBS Committe: Debra Cowger, Melissa DeLoach, Robin McGee, Margaret Morris

Birthday Celebration for Grant Jacobs!!!

*In celebration of the
90th Buthday of*

Grant Jacobs

*his daughters request the pleasure
of your company at a
Birthday Celebration Reception*

Sunday, March 25, 2012

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Ovilla United Methodist Church
1403 Red Oak Creek Road
Ovilla, Texas 75154
Fellowship Hall*

Hosted by:

Linda Korn, Madelon Gill and Cheryl Jacobs

*Questions may be directed to
Linda Korn at 972-669-8202*

No Gifts Please



*The United Methodist Church
East District*

*Dr. Bob Holloway
District Superintendent*

*Clara Downey
District Administrator*

February 8, 2012

Dear Friends,

They were counting on you. They have been counting on you as a source of hope. In some cases you made the difference between life and death. Thanks for not disappointing them.

Who are the "they" I am talking about? I suspect you know. "They" are the people we help as disciples of Jesus who are in the United Methodist Church. "They" are the ones struggling against the odds, wondering about their next meal, concerned about the wellbeing of their family and yearning to continue to learn of Christ. "They" are the people we will never know, living in places we will never visit, yet with whom we are connected in Christ.

I want to thank you for reaching the goal of 100% of your Connectional Mission Giving. The medicine, food and shelter were there when it was needed. The school or church through which people have been blessed will still be open. The people who represent us in sharing God's love are still there serving.

It is my prayer that God will grant you grace to be aware of and thankful for what you have accomplished. May God's love fill our hearts to empower us to hear our continued call to serve and share.

Thankful to be serving Christ with you,

Dr. Bob Holloway

Confirmation Classes Offered

Confirmation Classes will begin on Sunday, March 4th through Sunday, April 15th. We will have Confirmation Sunday on Sunday, April 22nd in both services to honor those who have completed confirmation. If your child is age 11 to 13 and would like to attend, you may sign them up in the foyer. We will meet at 2:30 p.m. (usually) in the Fellowship Hall.

Let's Go Fishing!

We are in the process of putting together a fishing trip at Lake Whitney for the men of OUMC (sorry ladies, you can go shopping).

Keep April 20 and 21 open for this trip (date subject to change). We will have a fishing guide for Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, if you want, you can bring your boat for more fishing. Please see Riley Sullivan for details.