



The Tidings

March 2015

Ministerial Moments

Lent. The word comes from the German lenz for spring. It is the 40 days, excluding Sundays, between Ash Wednesday and Easter. The earliest known mention of Lent was at the Council of Niecaea in 325 as 40 days of fasting to honor Jesus. We also use it in commemoration of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting and doing spiritual preparation for his ministry.

At one time the Lenten fast is thought to have helped prepare candidates for their baptism into the Body of Christ. In addition to fasting there would be study and prayer. Eventually, this became not only a time of study and preparation for new Christians but for the whole congregation.

The three pillars of Lent are: prayer, fasting and works of love. Prayer knocks on the door, Fasting obtains, Love receives. Included with the prayer and fasting should be a time of self-examination to see how we can live more like Jesus, serving others. Here are some of the questions that might help you to practice this daily self-examination:

Become aware of God's presence in this quiet moment.

Imagine, recall, or glance at the happenings of your day.

Be still and aware of what arises.

What makes you grateful?

Where was God in the day for you?

Who comes to your mind?

What situations- not only in your personal life, but in the world - come to mind?

When did you do justice, extend mercy?

What feels like a missed opportunity?

(Continued page 3)

> > > **Wurstmarkt - March 21st** < < <

You know it's almost Spring when you see the pink pig in the front lawn of the church in late February. Yes it's that time again. Wurstmarkt Time!!! **Saturday, March 21 - 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.** I'm sure that Funds and Fellowship could use as much help as they can get and all the pies you can make.

See the sign up list or call Susan Olyer (3324) or Bobbi Duffie (3489) to find out where help is most needed. They are in need of potato peelers on Saturday morning starting at 8:00 am, also need help cleaning up around 7:00 pm.

Saturday, March 21 - 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

March Birthdays

Curtis Werner	5
Milton Dressel	7
Calvin Fruth	9
Dorothy Dressel	10
Ruth Erb	12
Stacey Pilbean	12
Clinton Galle	13
"Mike" Archie Dierks	13
Mervin Erb	15
Mindy Fitch	18
Alberta Galle	20
Brian Matzenbacher	23
Paul Weilmuenster	25
Caroline Galle	26
Charlie Raban	28
Timothy Campbell	31

March Anniversaries

Dennis & Nicole Sinn	10
Bill & Carol Gladson	15
Robert & Imogene Lehman	21
Warren & Kay Trotter	21



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of our five for five offerings in the UCC which is collected every year. OGHS provides support for health, education, refugee, agricultural and emergency relief initiatives in 138 countries by working with local, national, and global partners. Giving to OGHS can help make the world more the way God intended it to be – a place where everyone has what they need. Together, we can achieve a fair balance in our world by giving back to God what God has so richly bestowed upon us.

When we give to OGHS, we are following in the footsteps of the early churches of Macedonia from whom the Apostle Paul collected offerings to help the church in Jerusalem. OGHS reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the life of someone in distress in our congregation or community, and at other times impacting the lives of those in far off places we may never meet.

For almost seven decades we have been making a difference together and glorifying God. The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be collected on March 15, 2015.

Ministerial Moments Continued

For whom do you feel called to continue to pray?

What lingers in your heart that you need to pray for or do something about?

What questions arise about your life, your community, your world?

Hold all this before God, offer yourself to God's care, and rest.

Adapted from "The Examen: Holding the Day before God" by Sidney Fowler, in "What Matters: We Thank God by Working for a Just and Loving World" at www.uccvitality.org.

Fasting should not be self-punishment, but be thought of as a spiritual opportunity. Take an opportunity to eat a meatless meal, or give up a few hours of watching TV. Maybe buy fewer things we don't need. Clear the house or garage from clutter and give what you don't need to charity (Sonshine Corner),

Lastly, while I know a great many of you already work in helping professions or volunteer at Sonshine Corner, there is works of Love. A work of love may be as simple as checking on an elderly neighbor to see if everything is all right. Please remember that even little things mean a lot.

We must remember that "God so Loved the World that He gave His only begotten son so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) If God could love us that much, then how much more should we love our fellow humans and give back to God that which God has given to us.

Blessing,

Pastor Gail

2015 Church Council

NEW OFFICERS

President - John Barrett

Vice President - Curt Werner

Secretary - Bobbi Duffie

Fruth Rental: Curt Werner

Financial Secretaries: Kay Trotter

Flowers: Susie Stewart

Elders: Kay Trotter, Susie Stewart

Deacons: Crystal Cathcart, Kathy Matzenbacher, Curt Werner

Trustees: Bobbi Duffie, John Barrett, David Barbee

Pastoral Relations Committee - David Barbee, Curt Werner, Carol Mercer

MARCH 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Evangelical Daughters Mtg 6:30 pm	3	4 7:00 pm Lenten Service @ Methodist Choir after	5	6 World Day of Prayer	7 Day of Discipleship @ Collinsville
8	9	10 Council Mtg. 7 pm	11 7:00 pm Lenten Service @ Biddleborn Choir after	12	13	14
15 One Great Hour of Sharing Offering	16	16	18 7:00 pm Lenten Service @ Darmstadt Choir after	19	20	21 Wurstmarkt
22	23	24	25 7:00 pm Lenten Service @ Lenzburg Choir after	26	27	28
April 2: Maundy Thursday ; April 4: 7 pm Easter Vigil @ St. John's UCC Trenton ; April 5: Easter ; Sunrise Service at First Baptist ; April 12: Funds & Fellowship Caravan to DuBois for lunch.						

Greeters and Ushers 2015 - 2016

March 2015 through August 2015

** It is very important that if for some reason you can not make your scheduled week(s), please find a replacement or contact a church council member. If your name does not appear on this list, please contact a church council member to report the oversight. Thank you!

Date	Ushers and Greeters
March	1 Donna Galle, David Keim, Ruth Erb, Kevin McDonald
	8 Ruby Lehman, Janice Schmidt, Susan Oyler
	15 Sandy Smith, Lorrie Lehman, Ron Geisel
	22 Sandy Smith, Lorrie Lehman, Ron Geisel
	29 Susan Oyler, Kathleen Robert, Neal Galle, Donna Galle
April	5 Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Reinhardt
	12 Easter - Council Members
	19 Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Dale Sinn
	26 Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Kevin McDonald
May	3 Linda Jones, Tim Campbell
	10 Evangelical Daughters
	17 Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Curt Werner
	24 Ruby Lehman, Todd Erb, Ruth Erb
	31 Ruby Lehman, Todd Erb, Ruth Erb
June	7 Dave & Pete Dressel, Dorothy Dressel, Carol Gladson
	14 Larry & Kathy Matzenbacher, Carol Gladson
	21 David & Evelyn Schneidewind, David & Mindy Schneidewind
	28 Mandi Schmeirbach, Carol Mercer, Curt Werner
July	5 Mandi Schmeirbach, Carol Mercer, Curt Werner
	12 Bobbie Duffie, Jean Riess, Dale Sinn
	19 Bobbie Duffie, Jean Riess, Dale Sinn
	26 Jay & Leslie Lehman, Dennis & Nicole Sinn
August	2 Mike & Peggy Dierks, Leroy & Marlene Karsten
	9 Mike & Peggy Dierks, Bobbie Duffie, Tim Campbell
	16 Kevin McDonald, Ruby Lehman, David Barbee
	23 David & Evelyn Schneidewind, David & Mindy Schneidewind
	30 Linda Jones, Lorrie Lehman, Dale & Sharon Reese

Greeters and Ushers 2015 - 2016

September 2015 through February 2016

** It is very important that if for some reason you can not make your scheduled week(s), please find a replacement or contact a church council member. If your name does not appear on this list, please contact a church council member to report the oversight. Thank you!

Date	Ushers and Greeters
September	6 Caroline Galle, Ryan & Crystal Cathcart
	13 Carol Mercer, Susie Stewart, Sunday School
	20 David & Evelyn Schneidewind, David & Mindy Schneidewind
	27 John Barrett, Carla Hellsten, Ron Geisel
October	4 Bob & Imogene Lehman, John Barrett, Sandy Smith
	11 Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Mayfield
	18 Dave & Pete Dressel, Dorothy Dressel, Linda Jones
	25 Carol Gladson, Susan Oyler, Carla Hellsten
November	1 Jay & Leslie Lehman, Duane Waeltz
	8 John & Janet Fauth, Eloise Fauth
	15 Duane Waeltz, Janice Schmidt, Pete Dressel
	22 Susan Oyler, Kathleen Robert, Linda Jones
	29 Ryan & Crystal Cathcart and Family
December	6 Gene & Betty Bollmeier, Linda Jones
	13 Jay & Leslie Lehman, Lorrie Lehman, Neal Galle
	20 Dave & Pete Dressel, Dorothy Dressel
	24 Christmas Eve - Council Members
	27 Ruby Lehman, Larry & Kathy Matzenbacher
January	3 Leroy & Marlene Karsten, Sandy Smith
	10 Leroy & Marlene Karsten, Sandy Smith
	17 Eloise Fauth, John & Janet Fauth
	24 Eloise Fauth, John & Janet Fauth
	31
February	7 Bob & Imogene Lehman, Gary & Susie Stewart
	14 Bob & Imogene Lehman, Gary & Susie Stewart
	21 Mandi Schmierbach & family
	28 Kay Trotter, Mike Trotter, Carol Mayfield

Comments from the Church Mouse



Wow! Were there a lot of ladies here on Valentine's Day for the Women's Pre-Lent Breakfast! I overheard them talking and they said what a meaningful service had been presented before breakfast. They really enjoyed breakfast, too. So did I - since they left a few hot cross bun crumbs for me.

I think it is special that so many different churches were represented. The three ministers who did the service were our own Rev. Gail Geisel, and also Rev. Becky Williams of the First United Methodist, and Rev. Debra Harkness of First Baptist. During the Wednesday services of Lent, I get the same good feeling when we have service here and people from other churches attend.

I just wish they would have food. Even the dart ball players don't usually bring food. I hide when they are practicing because those darts could hurt if I was carelessly in the way. The fellowship hall hidey-hole is the safe place to be.

Funds and Fellowship is preparing for the Wurstmart of March 21. There will be lots and lots of people here then. My mouth watered when the committee talked of pies for dessert and all the other good food at the Wurstmart. Now they just need volunteers to help with the event.

I heard some of the ladies at the February Evangelical Daughters meeting talk of the volunteers from Marissa who helped with the aftermath of the devastating fires, especially the one at the Marissa Academy. What a shame! I'd never been there, but the Daughters said it was a landmark and full of historic treasures.

Our church holds some special relics of its history, but its main treasures are its people.

God bless them.

Funds and Fellowship Outing to DuBois

Mark your calendar!!! Funds & Fellowship is having an outing to DuBois on April 12. Caravan will depart after church on that Sunday and travel to DuBois.

Tours and Activities between 12:30 and 2:30 pm. - Camp Tours, Family Fun, Pontoon Boat Rides, Horseback Rides in the arena.

Enjoy a delicious, home-cooked Sunday Dinner, served buffet-style. Spend the afternoon exploring DuBois Center or relaxing on the patio overlooking the lake.

\$10 per person, RSVP will be required. More details to come in the April newsletter and the Sunday bulletins.

Order Form for Easter Lilies - Due March 15

Name of person ordering

Memory or Honor of _____

Memory or Honor of _____

Memory or Honor of _____



Number of lilies ordered _____ X \$10.00 each

= Total Amount Due: _____

Money or check may be attached to this form and dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Orders MUST be in by March 15th..



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