

SUNDAY MESSENGER

February 7, 2010

WILLIAMSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5681 Main Street, Williamsville NY 14221

(716) 634-4800 E-mail: wumc@williamsvilleumc.org

Web Site: www.williamsvilleumc.org

WUMC VISION STATEMENT

As a village church, Williamsville United Methodist faithfully continues the vision and tradition of our founders by welcoming all people to encounter Jesus Christ. We will nurture active fellowship and participation through a variety of ministries that encourage people of all ages to grow in a spiritual journey with Christ.

GREAT BIG BIRTHDAY HUGS TO

2/9 Zach Adams, Otto J. Scharf
2/11 Emma Sliwa
2/12 Shelby Philips, Annette Jones, Linda Sheriff
2/13 William Boissonnault, Jay Hagadorn,
Allan Christman

Your birthday is important to us! If we missed it please call the church office to update our records, 634-4800.

PRAYER REQUESTS and CONCERNS

Prayers of healing and support are requested for Jack Nill, Dwight Dickerman, George and Connie Howard, and Louise Flickinger. Continuing prayers are asked for Russ Lewis, Mariano Baer, Charles Mastin, Sarah Gregory, Tamar Friedner, Irene Wachowiak, Rev. John Beeson, Bob Race, and Elias Nojaim.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to Shannon Casterline and her family on the death of Shannon's father.

We also extend our prayers and sympathy to Jean Williams and her family on the death of Jean's granddaughter.

REACH OUT IN LOVE (Ages 3 – 4th grade)

Sunday, February 14th is not only Valentine's Day but it's also our **REACH OUT IN LOVE** Valentine celebration in Fillmore Hall for the children from 9:45 – 10:30a.m. (in between the services). We call it "Reach Out in Love" since we make valentine projects for others as well as for ourselves. It is a wonderful way to celebrate our love for God and our love for each other! Parents are welcome to join us! Most of you know Valentine's Day as another opportunity to remind people we love them. But did you know Valentine's Day was actually the day St. Valentine was killed for telling people of God's love? Before he was killed, he was able to send out notes saying, "Remember your Valentine!" This year on Valentine's Day when you're telling people how much you love them, remember the true meaning of the day and remind them how much God loves them too!

INFORMATION SHARING FOR CHURCH LEADERS

Attention! Lay Leader, Lay Member to Conference, SPPRC Chair, Finance Chair! An information sharing session regarding our new annual conference's shared ministries, clergy benefits (including pension and health insurance) and minimum compensation levels for clergy will be held on **Tuesday, February 16, 2009 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM at Amherst: Trinity UMC, 711 Niagara Falls Boulevard, Amherst, NY 14226**. It is important that you make arrangements to attend! The Western New York Conference ceases to exist on June 30. The Upper New York Annual Conference begins July 1. This information sharing session will give you the information you need to move forward as members of the United Methodist Church, Upper New York Conference. For further information, contact Deborah Barnes at the Niagara Frontier District Office at (716) 832-3233.

HELP WANTED

Camp Asbury is now taking applications for 2010 Summer Staff. Three new staff persons are needed - 1 Kitchen Assistant, 1 Waterfront-Pool Lifeguard, and 1 Female Core Counselor. Interested persons should contact Rev. Larry Wiliford at 585-237-5262 or asburysdirector@rochester.rr.com.

SEEKING REST FOR OUR SOULS WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

"Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls." Those words of Jeremiah are a fitting invitation to our journey through Lent, a season of renewal and of preparation for our celebration of Easter and resurrection.



Our observance will begin Ash Wednesday, February 17, with a simple worship service at 7:00 p.m. During that service we will hear Jeremiah's invitation more clearly and be reminded of our need for renewal and of God's promise of new life.

On each of the succeeding Wednesdays, February 24 through March 24, we will gather at 7:00 p.m. for light refreshments provided by the Family Life Ministries Team, a series of studies for adults and older youth led by the pastors, and a variety of activities for children. Child care will be provided for participants who request it in advance. Each week's gathering will end at 8:15.

Adults on a Spiritual Quest (ASQ) (ASQ, pronounced "ask," as in "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you") will be an opportunity to study our lives from the perspective of our experience and in searching conversation with other Christians. Pastor Rich Neal will facilitate the conversation; God will lead the journey, and only God knows where the journey will take us.

"On the Road Again" may remind you of a Willie Nelson song; however, it is a Lenten study developed by James Moore, a trusted and beloved preacher, and led by Associate Pastor Nick Perry. Each week, we will experience for ourselves the words Jesus spoke to some would-be followers, to short Zacchaeus, even to Pontius Pilate. We will explore the scriptures with questions for discussion and reflection, share a brief prayer, and be given a focus for the coming week.

No formal preparation for either of these studies is expected or required. Simply come as you are, bring an open and hungry mind and heart, and step out on a journey of faith.

Sign-up sheets are posted in the church entry near the office. Please use them to let us know you expect to participate so enough refreshments and other materials can be provided. And if you would like to have child care provided, be sure to let us know that, also.

DORCAS CIRCLE will meet at 10:30am on Thursday, February 11, in the church parlor. Margaret Roesch will present the program on Deborah. Hostesses are Shirley Balkin and Ruth Devonshire. Please remember to bring sandwiches and/or cookies to be taken to Central City Café.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES: CREATION IN CRISIS

The Contemporary Issues Class is examining the November pastoral letter from the Council of Bishops, "God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action." In it the bishops write, "God's creation is in crisis. Our neglect, selfishness, and pride have fostered pandemic poverty and disease, environmental degradation, and the proliferation of weapons and violence. We must begin the work of renewing creation by being renewed in our own hearts and minds." The bishops' letter and accompanying foundation document are posted on the WUMC website. Simply follow the links to the Adult Christian Education page and look for the Contemporary Issues information. *Be sure to bring a copy of the bishops' letter and foundation document to class when we meet.*

RACHEL CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, February 11 at 12:00pm at the home of Betty Peck. If you have any questions please call Sally Jost or Midge Hackworth.

BOOK CLUB will meet on Friday, Feb. 19, 7:30 pm at the home of Midge and Vaughn Hackworth. Our reading selection is "Snow Falling on Cedars" by David Guterson. Join us for a discussion of a novel of suspense, historical events, prejudice and grace. Contact person: Ann Killian.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EVENT – TRINITY UMC, GRAND ISLAND

On Saturday, February 20, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Dr. Philip Stine, linguist and Bible translator will offer three sessions to help people understand more about translating cultural issues, overcoming language problems and learning translation methods that are used. The afternoon session will focus on the questions, “Who changed my Bible?” and “Do I need a Ph.D. to understand the Bible?” For those able to stay there will be an informal evening session and then a Sunday morning Sunday school class session as well as an opportunity to hear Dr. Stine preach at the 10:30 am worship service.

Dr. Philip Stine, alumnus of Asbury College and The University of Michigan, is a linguist who spent a career with United Bible Societies supervising Bible translation projects all over the world and particularly in Africa. After earning his doctorate in linguistics at the University of Michigan, Stine began his career as a Bible translation consultant in Africa. He also studied Bible at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He retired from his position as global translation and publishing director after serving the United Bible Societies for nearly thirty years. He is widely published in the fields of Bible translation and textual interpretation. Stine is currently writing a book about the King James Version of the Bible, the 400th anniversary of which will be in 2011.

Cost for the event is \$15.00 per adult, \$5.00 for youth or \$25.00 for a family. Trinity UMC is located at 2100 Whitehaven Road, Grand Island, NY 14072. A downloadable brochure may be found on the Trinity Church website at:
http://www.gitumc.org/userFiles/1383/10_inspire_event.pdf

DAYS AHEAD IN OUR CHURCH

Please contact the church office at 643-4800 to obtain phone numbers of the contact people mentioned below.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

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| 9:00 AM | Taize Worship with communion |
| 9:45 AM | Christian Education for children & adults |
| 11:00 AM | Traditional Worship & Extended Session Class |
| 6:30 PM | Sr. High Youth Group Superbowl Party– Contact: Nick Perry 984-5483 or Judy Toone |

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

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| 1:00 PM | Staff Meeting |
| 7:00 PM | Boy Scouts |
| 7:00 PM | Web Site Team meeting |

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

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| 12:30 PM | Exercise Class in Fillmore Hall – contact: Claudia Fries. Newcomers welcome! |
| 6:30 PM | Learning to Live Support Group meets in the library – Contact: Leslie Jordans |
| 7:00 PM | Worship Team Meeting – Contact: Cheryl Thomas. |

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

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| 4:30 PM | CEMT meeting – Contact: Judy Toone |
| 6:00 PM | King's Kids rehearsal – Contact: Barbara Saltarella |
| 6:30 PM | Advent Choir rehearsal: Contact: Judy Stafford or Wendy Amuso |
| 7:00 PM | Lay Leaders Meeting – Contact: Dave Reichard |
| 7:30 PM | Chancel Choir rehearsal - Contact: Judy Stafford or Wendy Amuso |
| 8:00 PM | Narcotics Anonymous meeting in Fillmore Hall |

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

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| 10:30 PM | Dorcas Circle Meeting in Church parlor – Contact: Donna Swift |
| 12:00 PM | Rachel Circle Meeting at the home of Midge Hackworth - Contact: Sally Jost or Midge Hackworth |
| 12:30 PM | Exercise Class in Fillmore Hall – Contact: Claudia Fries. Newcomers welcome! |
| 7:00 PM | Memorial Handbells rehearsal – Contact: Judy Stafford or Wendy Amuso |
| 7:00 PM | Perkins Internship Meeting – Contact: Nick Perry |
| 7:30 PM | ODNS Board Meeting |

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12 **Messenger Deadline**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 **Blood Pressure Clinic**

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| 9:00 AM | Contemporary Worship with communion |
| 9:45 AM | Reach Out in Love |
| 9:45 AM | Christian Education for children & adults |
| 11:00 AM | Traditional Worship & Extended Session Class
Reception of new members and baptisms |

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15 **Presidents Day**

Church Office Closed

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

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| 9:30 AM | Parent's Bereavement Support Group, meets in the library – Contact: Leslie Jordans |
| 12:30 PM | Exercise Class in Fillmore Hall – Contact: Claudia Fries. Newcomers welcome! |
| 1:00 PM | Women's Cancer Support Group, meets in the library – Contact: Carol Amico |
| 7:00 PM | Trustee Meeting – Contact: Ed Howard |

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 **Ash Wednesday**

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| 6:30 PM | Advent Choir rehearsal: Contact: Judy Stafford or Wendy Amuso |
| 7:00 PM | Ash Wednesday Service |
| 7:30 PM | Chancel Choir rehearsal - Contact: Judy Stafford or Wendy Amuso |
| 8:00 PM | Narcotics Anonymous meeting in Fillmore Hall |

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

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| 12:30 PM | Exercise Class in Fillmore Hall – contact: Claudia Fries. Newcomers welcome! |
| 7:00 PM | Memorial Handbells rehearsal - Contact: Judy Stafford or Wendy Amuso |
| 8:00 PM | Taize Service - Contact: Cheryl Thomas |

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

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| 9:30 AM | Central City Cafe |
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

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| 8:30 AM | Habitat for Humanity, crew meets at church to Car pool to work site, newcomers always welcome. Contact: Ed Howard |
| 9:00 AM | Ring Masters rehearsal – Contact: Gloria Werblow |

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 **First Sunday in Lent**

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| 9:00 AM | King's Kids Celebration (Children's Worship) |
| 9:45 AM | Christian Education for children & adults |
| 11:00 AM | Traditional Worship & Extended Session Class |
| 6:30 PM | Jr. High Youth Group – Contact: Nick Perry 984-5483 or Judy Toone |