



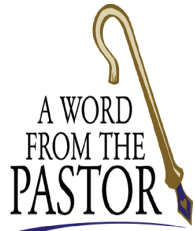
# February 2012

## Tidings



First United  
Methodist Church  
of Troy

Rev. Hal Weemhoff  
248.879.6363  
Fax 248.879.7552



Dear Troy 1<sup>st</sup> family,

It's time to think about Lent and our "Journey to Jerusalem." Yes, it is that time of year. Ash Wednesday is the 22nd of February and our service of ashes will be at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This gathering reminds us that our lives belong to God. The chancel choir will lead us, inspire us, and move us into God's presence so that we can carry that presence into the world around us. That is what it means to pick up your cross and follow Jesus!

Once again during this Lenten season, we will feature a Wednesday night program "Journey to Jerusalem" for the entire family (all ages are included). Dinner will be at 6:00pm with the program following from 6:30-7:15pm. This will be a great night of food, fellowship, fun and faith learning.

I will again host the "God and Country" program for Boy/Girl Scouts from any troop/pack, grades 3-12 from 5:00-6:30pm, with dinner included. Please reserve the four March Wednesdays—March 7, 14, 21, and 28—for our "Journey to Jerusalem."

You will also be able to experience your "Journey to Jerusalem" at home, using the daily family devotional guide that will be available the first Sunday of Lent and throughout the entire season.

See You In Church,  
In the meantime, Be The Church!  
Hal

Don't forget to check out my blog at  
<http://pastor-troyfumcstidings20.blogspot.com/>

### God and Country Award Program

Rev. Hal will once again be offering a God and Country Award Program for all Boy/Girl Scouts from any troop/pack in grades 3-12. It will be 4 weeks only from Wednesday, March 7, through Wednesday, March 28, from 5:00-6:30pm. The cost is \$20 and includes the medal and dinner. Third through sixth graders must be accompanied by a parent or supervising adult every week. Parents are welcome to eat dinner with their scout for \$3.00. The medals are God and Me for grade 3, God and Family for grades 4 and 5, God and Church for grades 6-8, and God and Life for grades 9-12. The medals will be presented during worship at 10:00am on Sunday, April 1. Contact Rev. Hal for more information.

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[www.fumctroy.org](http://www.fumctroy.org)

#### SUNDAYS

10:00 Worship  
10:25-11:00  
Jr. Church/Faith in Action  
11:00 One Voice Choir  
Rehearsal  
11:00-11:20  
Coffee Fellowship  
11:20-12:00  
Sunday School  
for all ages  
6:30-8:00 UMYF

## United Methodist Women – February Activities

Activities are open to all women; you do not need to be a member of UMW. If you have questions on any of the events, please call Linda DeVilling.

- Thur, Feb 2** 9:30 pm Executive Board hosted at the home of Jan Garrett.  
**Thur, Feb 9** 9:30 am Ruth Circle in the CLC at church  
**Thur, Feb 9** 11:30 Cluster Luncheon w/Fellowship & Big Beaver UMCs at Troy First  
**Thur, Feb 9** 7:30 pm Deborah Circle at Gloria Freeland's house.  
**Wed, Feb 22** 1:00 Sandwich making for Detroit Central UMC—Noah Project in the CLC Kitchen. The more hands, the quicker this goes!  
**Thurs, Feb 23** 9:30 Crafty Ladies in the CLC LL at church



## UMW 2011 Mission Giving



In 2011 the United Methodist Women contributed a total of \$8,300 to the following places: Detroit East District United Methodist Women, Baldwin Blankets, Baldwin Center, Cass Community Social Services, Church Women United, Church Women United Health Kits, Detroit Central U.M.C. Sandwich Program, Grace Centers of Hope, Haven, Honduras Health Foundation, Hurricane Relief, Lighthouse Emergency Services, Methodist Camp Scholarships, Methodist Children's Homes, Metropolitan U.M.C. Day Camp, Neighborhood House, Red Bird Mission, SOS Dinner, Troy Local Care Client, Troy People Concerned & UMRC Heritage Foundation.

If you helped at the rummage sale, brought or bought books or cookies, purchased Christmas cards, helped at a funeral luncheon or turned in an offering, THANK YOU for making our donations possible.

## One Voice Choir Rehearsal Time Change!!

Calling all singers....grades 6-12!! One Voice will now be rehearsing immediately following worship, at 11:00am, in the Chapel. This will allow more youth to rehearse before Sunday school, and have worship, Sunday school, and choir rehearsal done by noon. We are hoping that more youth will be able to participate with this new change for 2012. Please see Music Director Steve Kosinski with any questions.



## Calling All Scouts – Scout Sunday is February 5



Sunday, February 5, 2012, has been reserved as Scout Sunday. Whether you are a Boy Scout or Girl Scout, this day has been set aside to honor scouting and you. Mark your calendar for February 5th and plan to greet, participate in worship and serve at coffee hour. Plan to meet in the chapel at 9:00 am, wear your uniform and bring one or two items to the kitchen for coffee hour. Contact Ann Goff or Lee Matthews if you have questions.





### Heart for Haiti

That's what Ruth Mannschreck will be telling about. Come together at Troy First 's Christian Life Center with women from Fellowship and Big Beaver UMCs and hear about Ruth's experiences working in Haiti. We will gather at 11:30am and share a potluck luncheon at noon on Thursday, February 9th. We will be gathering food items and non-perishables for the Troy People Concerned food pantry. No reservations are necessary; just bring a dish to pass!

### New Members Welcome!

Coming on February 12 will be the next new member class and an opportunity to join the membership of Troy First. Have you been visiting for a while? Are you interested in affirming your baptism? If you are here on a regular basis, joining the church is simply a way of making a formal commitment to Christ and to this Christian community. Rev. Hal will hold a membership class on February 12, or he will meet one on one with you at your convenience, to review what it means to be a member of Troy First UMC. We hope that you will decide to join us on February 12. Please call the office with your decision, so we can prepare information for you.



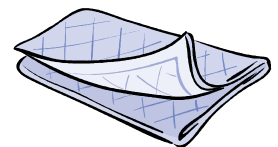
### Remember Our College Students

It's time again to collect candy and send Valentine's Day wishes to our college students. They "Love" our attention. Please bring your donations by Sunday, February 6th, and drop the treats in the "Heart" box at the Welcome Center. Thank you for supporting this Young Adult Ministry project.

Sandy Sands  
Higher Education

### Blanket Sunday Coming

The Outreach Committee would like to invite everyone to support the **Blankets+ - Sunday** on February 19th. **Blankets+** gifts are at work in the U.S. and around the world helping to meet emergency needs and supporting long-term recovery and preparedness. Last year's support was both worldwide and used within the United States. The Church World Service was recently in action in with the **Blankets+** program supplied 20 different US states with 10,190 blankets to support emergency needs and the Dominican Republic received 2,750 blankets.



### The Cookies Are Coming



Thank you to those of you who ordered Girl Scout cookies. They will be available for pick up in the CLC during coffee hour on February 26. If you are unable to pick up your cookies during this time, please contact Ann Goff. Girl Scouts, please have your cookies sorted and labeled and bring change.

**Journey Around Jerusalem**  
**Lenten Program for All Ages!**  
**Wednesday Evenings....March 7-28th**

Calling all kids, youth from Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and adults of all ages! Our four-week long Wednesday night Lenten program includes dinner and an activity session for elementary age and middle schoolers. Crafts, Bible stories, and games will be centered around our Lenten theme. Confirmands will meet with Rev. Hal and Carole Welbaum following dinner. Adults may take part in a Lenten Study taught by George Berquist following dinner.

**Dinner at 6:00pm for all ages**

**(\$3.00 per person - Family rate of \$10 per night)**

**Children's Activities from 6:30 -7:15pm**

**Confirmation (8th grade) Activities from 6:30-7:15pm**

**Adult Lenten Study from 6:30 -7:15pm**

**Sign Up Soon!**

WHY? MAKING SENSE OF GOD'S WILL

By Adam Hamilton  
A Lenten Study for Adults

Four sessions beginning  
Wednesday, March 7, from 6:30-7:15  
through Wednesday, March 28  
and  
Sunday, March 11, from 11:20-12:00 noon  
through Sunday, April 1

Dr. George R. Berquist, facilitator

Books available starting Sunday, February 19,  
for a cost of \$9.00



## A Call for New Teddy Bears

The United Methodist Women are collecting new teddy bears for the Troy Police Department. This will allow the officers to provide a teddy bear to any child they come in contact with who is distressed and needs a little extra comfort. Donations will be accepted through March. Look for a collection box in Mercer Hall. Contact Ann Goff with any questions. Thank you in advance for all you do.

## Hope (Baldwin) Warming Center

Once again Troy 1st will participate in the Hope (Baldwin) Warming Center in Pontiac. Our Congregation will be preparing and serving dinner to approximately 60 homeless men and women from **Monday, March 19, through Thursday, March 22.**

Many volunteers are required for this outreach ministry. We will need approximately 12 people each evening to prepare and serve dinner. In addition, two overnight volunteers (1 man and 1 woman) will be needed on a nightly basis.

If you are unable to volunteer your time, please consider donating paper products, food, or money to help cover the cost of this important mission.

Sign-up sheets will be available in mid-February. If you would like to sign up early or have questions, please contact our Warming Center Coordinator, Linda Wright at 248-225-4376 to reserve your date.

## Youth Auction Coming

Sunday, March 25th, is the date for the 7th Annual Dinner/Auction to benefit the Youth Mission Trip to Rushville, IN in July. Join us for a great dinner and a silent auction, followed by our fabulous LIVE auction.

Do you have a service or talent you are willing to offer, event tickets to a game, theater etc., or other appealing items for our auction? In the past, we have had golf outings, sailboat rides, a stay in a cabin up North, and a Pre Cruise ride for the Woodward Dream Cruise. Please contact Carole Welbaum for questions or drop off your donation at the church office. Please label with Youth Auction. Deadline for donations is February 26.



**Tickets will go on sale in February and tickets are limited. Please don't miss this exciting evening!**



## Easter Offering Goals for 2012

Haiti Medical Supply Containers	\$ 500
Local Shelters Hope/SOS	\$ 500
Cass Methodist Community Services	\$ 500
Monrovia First UMC	\$1,500
Children's Village	<u>\$ 500</u>
Total	\$3,500



**CHURCH LIBRARY**  
*News*

Here's a suggestion for starting 2012 out well--read some books from our Troy First Library! We have children's books--mostly under our secretary Donna's window-- a few books just for teens which you'll find on the right edge of the book shelves next to the CLC doors and, of course, lots of books that both teens and adults would enjoy.

The books to the left of the Chapel are nonfiction. They include Bible commentary, devotional books, books on spiritual and life growth and how to be a good Christian in the world. Fiction and biography are found on the CLC wall.

Several new books have been added to our collection over the last months due to generous donations. The Preacher's Wife by Jodi Hedlund (FIC HED) is a fictional account of the wife of John Bunyan of Pilgrim's Progress fame--Bernona Fry gives it rave reviews. Two other new novels are The Shape of Mercy (FIC MEI) about a modern day woman studying the Salem witch trials and Secrets of Harmony Grove (FIC CLA) which is an Amish romantic suspense story--an intriguing concept.

Our latest nonfiction include It's Easy Being Green (333.72 GRE), Bible Mapbook (912 JEN) which could make you almost as up to date on Biblical history and places as Jane Egermann, and Building Your Field of Dreams (248.4 MOR) telling an inspiring story praised by authors Wayne Dyer and Marianne Williamson.

Happy reading!  
Jan Peacock  
Librarian

## Give Toys a New Home!

Our nursery and toddler childcare rooms (for ages newborn through young threes) could use some fresh toys. If you have any gently used toys that you would like to donate, please bring them on any Sunday to the Toddler Room and give them to the adult in charge, or see Megan Steiger about your donation. New toys are welcomed, too! Any donations we do not retain will be passed on to a worthy charity. Suggested toys: Wooden puzzles, toys with sounds, large Duplo or similar blocks, books (especially board books and Christian books), sorting toys, musical toys, trucks/cars, baby dolls, Little Tykes and Little People sets, and a farm with animals. Also, if you have a CD player you no longer use, that would be appreciated!



## Thanks to Troy First

Our Christmas offering goal of \$7,000 was achieved. Many people in our community and beyond will be served through the eight missions we supported with this offering. They are:

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| \$ 400 Troy People Concerned        | \$2,500 Missionaries               |
| \$ 400 Rochester Neighborhood House | \$1,500 Habitat for Humanity       |
| \$1,000 Youth Mission Trip          | \$ 300 Pastor's Discretionary Fund |
| \$ 400 Detroit Renaissance District | \$ 500 Baldwin Warming Center      |

The Outreach Committee



www.fumctroy.org

We hope our new website will make it easier for you and your family to know what's happening and make it easier to sign up for events, make contacts, and share information.

If you have something you would like published on our church website, please see Donna or Lisa in the church office. We are also able to put registration forms online for your church events.

Please check out our "Help Wanted" page, our Photo Galleries, and our links to our Facebook page and Reverend Hal's blog. We welcome your comments or suggestions.

Ginger Mahrle  
Communications Committee

## We Want To Hear From You

Troy First is using social media on the internet to get the word out to our members and the community about the ministries and activities going on in our church. Pictures of people involved in these activities may be put on our website or Facebook page. The Communications Committee needs to hear from those who don't want their pictures used. Please contact Sam Clay to let us know you do NOT want your picture on the internet.



In the absence of contact from you, we will publish with no restrictions.

*Thank You!*

Dear Friends and Family at Troy FUMC,

Thank you all for praying for my mom. She is doing a little better. I appreciate all of your support in prayers and all. God's blessings be with all of you. By the time you read this, I'll be in India with my mom and returning in March.

Wishing you all the best,  
Regards and Lots of Love,  
Swapna Bagchi

The **Memorial Book** focus for the month of February is for the following:

	In Memory of	For
February 5	Agnes Grissom Zachow	Wireless Microphone
February 12	Milton Miller	Wireless Microphone
February 19	Bertha Trost	Wireless Microphone
February 26	James V. Harrison	Memorial Garden



The **Memorial Garden Book** focus for the month of February is in memory of

John A. Peacock

## **What's Happening in Our Facility? WHOF???**

2011 was a great year! We had A LOT of people in our facility using our space and generating A LOT of Christian community in our church!!! I want to share with you the top 12 ministry opportunities that happened in our church in 2011. I look forward to another great year with lots of varied usages and lots of people in our church!! The amount of lives that we are affecting with this ministry is tremendous, and it is so great to welcome our members and guests into our facility, day after day, week after week, year after year. Many members have decided that having a home party, baby shower, wedding reception, and even a child's birthday party is more convenient and less stressful right here at the church! Feel free to inquire about your next family, friend, or neighborhood gathering to see if the church would be a good alternative option for you!

### **Top 12 Ministry Opportunities of 2011**

January: Women's Retreat, February: member funeral, March: Bishop's Day, April: BSA Commissioner's College, May: Duane Miller's Retirement Party, June: Indian Celebration, July: Righteous Mission, August: First Election, September: Ministry Fair, October: Rummage Sale, November: GS Chemistry Day, December: UMW Christmas Tea.

Looking forward into 2012, we have two Boy Scout Pinewood Derbys, Ballroom Dancing, Scrapbooking, the Girl Scout Annual Meeting, at least one wedding reception, at least two auctions, the Eastside Ministries Picnic, UMW Potlucks, and everything else that God has in store for our church!! We are so blessed to have this wonderful facility to utilize and open to the community! Praise God!

## **Kingdom Challenge – Part 3 – Sharing the Harvest**

As we enter February, the time has come to harvest our treasure, planted from the \$1,000 seeds provided by the Renaissance District.

Now it's time to gather the gifts. If you received a \$5 bill, it's time to turn in that \$5 bill and the additional money you collected. There will be a Kingdom Challenge table in the CLC during each coffee hour in February; please see Chris Weemhoff to turn in your portion.

Where is the harvest going? Everyone in our congregation can participate in the next 2 parts of the challenge! How?

Nominate one or more deserving programs/agencies in our neighborhoods (Troy, Rochester-Rochester Hills, and Auburn Hills) during coffee hour on January 29, February 5, and February 12 (at the Kingdom Challenge Table). Everyone can nominate one or more programs. The nominations will be displayed on posters (by community), tallied after February 12, and 10 finalists will be announced on February 19! Each of the finalists will receive a portion of our harvest, but how much?

On February 19 and February 26, there will be 10 jars on the Kingdom Challenge table during coffee hour. Everyone can vote for their favorites and vote as often as you like. Each vote is \$1, and votes will be collected in the jars for 2 weeks. Then, our treasure will be divided among the finalists, based on votes.

On Saturday, March 3, our Kingdom Challenge will be announced at Bishop's Day to the Detroit Renaissance District.

On Sunday, March 4, the Kingdom Challenge table will showcase our gifts to our communities!

## Is Royal Scottish Dancing for You?

The Detroit Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society invites you to join us and learn Scottish Country Dancing! If you would like: to enjoy an exhilarating, graceful form of dance that anyone can learn, and is danced throughout the world; to spend time with some of the nicest people anywhere; to help celebrate Scottish Heritage, whether you are a Scot or not...then Scottish Country Dancing is right for you!!!



What is The Society?

The society was formed on November 26, 1923, in Glasgow and is now an international organization having 25,000 members, 200 branches and 500 affiliated groups worldwide. The Society's goals are to provide instruction in and to preserve & promote Scottish Country Dancing. No Partner needed, your first night is free, and **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WEAR A KILT!!!** Please join us any Thursday, at 7pm in the Christian Life Center. Their website is: [www.rscdsdetroit.org](http://www.rscdsdetroit.org) Check it out!!!

## Ballroom Dancing Joins the Movement!

As if we didn't have enough dancing here at Troy First!! On Thursday nights, we offer Royal Scottish Country Dancing every week, from 7:00-9:30pm. The first night is free, and you are more than welcome to try it out!! On fourth Saturdays, normally, we have the Oakland Country Traditional Dance Society offering contra dance from 8:00-11:00pm, with lessons at 7:30pm. The first night you pay, but the second dance is free. Come early, enjoy the lesson and then dance the rest of the night. For both these groups, no partner or experience is necessary, making it the perfect aerobic activity for everyone! All ages are welcome to both these dances.



for this dance.

Now, if you can believe it, Ballroom Dancing is knocking on our doors and would like to enter in once a month. Do we have room? Yes! Do we have people in our church who would like to try Ballroom Dancing? I think the answer is yes, but you will have to show us with your presence! Karmin is the instructor for the Ballroom Dancing and she will start at 7:00pm with an advanced lesson for experienced dancers. At 7:30pm, the beginners will get their lesson. At 8:00pm, the floor will be open and all ballroom dancers will be able to join in. This would be the perfect time to try ballroom dancing especially if you have a wedding coming up in 2012 or if you have always wanted to see if you might be a candidate for Dancing with the Stars! There is an admission fee

For February, Contra Dancing will be on Saturday, February 11, from 7:30-11:00pm due to the Valentine's Day holiday and they want to celebrate Valentine's Day with a dance. The Ballroom Dance Party will be on Saturday, February 18, from 7-10pm right after Valentine's Day so you could still be celebrating. Again, for February, each Thursday night Royal Scottish Country Dancing will be from 6:30-9:30pm.

Please consider some sort of dance for your aerobic activity during the month of February and you might even qualify for Dancing with the Stars!

<b>Activity</b>	<b>February 5</b>	<b>February 12</b>	<b>February 19</b>	<b>February 26</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Scout Sunday	George & Joyce Bauman	Bob & Kimberlee Urwiller	Stephen, Brooke & Renee Schocke
<b>Ushers</b>	Ed Freeland Marie Leverenz Doug Smith Mary Smith	Karen Carl Ben Olesen Tom Stevens Marie Watson	Patti Aurand Chris DeVilling Corwin Hanson Brian Urbach	Terry Pritchett Lyle Pushman Roger Steiger Kristin Truelove
<b>Crucifer Bible Carrier</b>	Beth Rhoades Jack Stover	Joe Meek Geoffrey Williston	Lauren Matthews Jason LaCombe	Brianne Abdo Jessica Abdo
<b>Acolytes</b>	Katie Stover Meghan Rhoades	Krista Williston Sarah Williston	Andrew Gordon Carly Gordon	Lane Ann Rumel Merrick Rumel
<b>Sound Video Engineers</b>	Steve Olsavsky Lauren Matthews	Jerry Michaux Jerry Michaux	Julie Olsavsky Rick Wright	Jack Stover Jack Stover
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	If you would like to help by providing goodies for coffee hour, please call Diane Martin.			
<b>Monday Counters</b>	Mary Jo Johnston Laurie Urbach Sharon Smith	Ben Olesen Tim Teagan	Jane Egermann Nancy Heffron Jayne Saeger	Chris DeVilling Marie Watson Michelle Williston
<b>Trustee on Duty</b>	Chuck Tincknell	Linda Pushman	Bill Wesp	Jon Bertolet
<b>Flowers for The Lord's Table</b>	If you would like to put flowers on The Lord's Table, sign up on flower chart by the church office. The cost is \$25.			
<b>Jr. Church</b>	Patti Aurand Kathy Sobanski	Lori Ann Rumel Megan Steiger	Williston Family	Tom Stevens
<b>Faith in Action</b>	Children remain in worship	Kelly Gordon	Ostrander	Alexandra La-Combe
<b>Nursery (Newborns &amp; Crawlers)</b>	Julie Geggie Melody Power	Sharon Ostrander Meghan Ostrander	Angela DiBartolomeo Christine Knoper	Mary Smith Riley Smith
<b>Toddler Room (Walkers-2 year olds)</b>	Jessica Abdo	Sarah Hodroge	Jennifer Rivera	***
<b>3&amp;4 Year Olds</b>	Laurie Mitchener Marianne Melton	Leslie Diebol Stephanie McNett	Kristin Truelove Jessica Urbach	Jill Woods Emily Woods