



March 2012 Tidings

First United
Methodist Church
of Troy

Rev. Hal Weemhoff
Cell 313.418.2748
248.879.6363
Fax 248.879.7552



Dear Church Family,

We are in the midst of winter but who could tell with no snow and so many balmy days? The same could be said of Lent.

We are in the midst of Lent but how can you tell?

*Are you focused on Jesus' journey to Jerusalem?
Are you focused on your journey to Jerusalem?*

*Jesus came to earth to take away the sins of the world.
That was the job he came to earth to do.
Jesus calls us to "follow him" by choosing our cross.
That is the job Jesus calls us to do.*

You may ask: "How do I choose a cross for my life?"

John Wesley would say: "through the seven principles of faithfulness: Bible study, prayer, singing, Christian conversation, preaching, mutual accountability and serving others." All of these avenues of learning are open lanes for discovering your cross (ministry) during this holy season called Lent.

Sundays and Wednesdays are gathering times for the entire congregation. These are family times and we have great opportunities for all ages! Please look over the wonderful Lenten Brochure that offers many possibilities of how Wesley's seven principles of faithfulness can come to life for you in the next six weeks. I look forward to seeing you All Around Jerusalem!

*See you in church on Sundays and Wednesdays,
In the Meantime, Be The Church!
Hal*

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

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troyfirst@sbcglobal.net
drhalw@sbcglobal.net
donnaKlungle@sbcglobal.net
cwelbaum@comcast.net
lisaheadclc@sbcglobal.net
suewesp@comcast.net
skosinski99@gmail.com
krawlinl@fhfs.org
amandasabelhaus@yahoo.com
bagdel6@hotmail.com



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 – March 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, Mar 1** 9:30 pm Executive Board hosted by Ann Goff @ church
- Thur, Mar 8** 9:30 am Ruth Circle in the CLC at church
- Thur, Mar 8** 7:30 pm Deborah Circle at Betty Kalvoda's home
- Thur, Mar 22** 9:30 Crafty Ladies at Linda DeVilling's home
- Mon, Mar 26** 11:30 Fellowship Luncheon at Camp Ticonderoga. If you are interested in attending this event please call Linda DeVilling.
- Fri-Sat, Mar 30-31** District Spiritual Growth Retreat at Port Huron Retreat Center
Registration deadline is March 20th. If you are interested in attending please call Linda DeVilling for cost and reservation information.
- All Month** Collecting teddy bears for the Troy Police Department. Donation basket set up in Mercer Hall.



Thank You!

Thanks for the many prayers and concerns for Bob while he was suffering from "mesothelioma." Thanks to Rev. Hal for all his visits and also thanks to the United Methodist Women for the delicious funeral dinner.

Our family appreciates all that you have done.

Lois Reid and family

Flowers for the Lord's Table

Did you know we have a flower chart outside the office door? You can sign up to put flowers on the Lord's Table in memory or in honor of someone. You may want to celebrate a baptism, anniversary or birthday or honor a loved one who has passed away with flowers. The cost is \$25 for a beautiful arrangement in the color you choose. They are ordered on Wednesday mornings and picked up for you so you don't have to do a thing. Just sign up on the chart for your special day, let the office know what colors you would like, and write a check to the church along with your offering and then take the flowers home with you on that Sunday. What a nice way to adorn our Lord's Table.



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.

One Great Hour of Sharing, March 18, 2012

One Great Hour of Sharing gifts help cover the cost of UMCOR's administrative work. This means that all gifts designated to a **specific** program can go 100% to that program. Please give to help us help others.

Good News Class Presents Their Annual Play

The Good News class first presented “For Such a Time as This” in 2000. Three members of the class are appearing in their original roles: Jeff Olesen as King Ahasuerus, Marie Watson as Queen Vashti, and Roger Steiger as Haman.

The seven princes of Persia are played by Frank Glidden, Mark Bauer, Jerry Coval, Jeff Goff, Dale Johnston, Mike Rumel, and Nick Olesen.

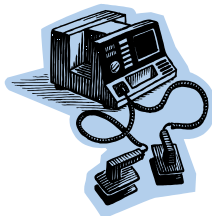
The inimitable Jayne Saeger is Jochebed, Queen Vashti’s lady-in-waiting. Ladies of the court are Mary Jo Johnston, Carole Bauer, Laurie Mitchener, Joan Coval, Cheryl Barnes, Barbara Burnsteel, and Ann Goff.

Mike Hartrick and Scott Williston appear as King Ahasuerus’ servants. They supervise the new candidates for queen: Brooke Hartrick, Tina Olesen, and Laurie Urbach.

Brian Urbach, the king’s Jewish servant, presents another candidate for queen—his young relative Esther, played by new talent Becky Head. Karen Glidden is Esther’s faithful companion. Haman’s vicious wife Zeresk is Alexandra LaCombe.

Stage managers are Lori Ann Rumel and Kelly Gordon.

We hope you will come to see our performance on March 4, during morning worship.



Special AED Training

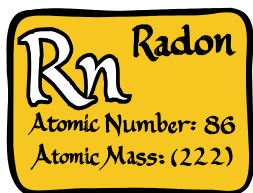
On Tuesday, March 27th, at 7:00pm, certified paramedics will conduct training for all staff, ushers and anyone interested in emergency preparedness including the use of the defibrillator and CPR. Please arrive before 7:00pm as this class will start promptly and end before 7:30pm so that the Church Council may convene.

Give Blood, Give Life - March 30th

Our next blood drive is scheduled for Friday, March 30, 1-7pm in the Christian Life Center. There is always a need for blood due to accidents, surgeries, cancers, and other medical problems. Please consider donating or checking out if you are eligible to donate - you might be. Thanks to all who have been loyal donors, please keep coming - we love you! See Kathy in the CLC beginning on March 4th or sign up online at givelife.org and use the code `fumctroy`.



Be Safe—Test for Radon



Did you know that radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer (after smoking)? Did you know that southeast Michigan has higher than average number of homes with elevated radon levels? Did you know that a do-it-yourself test kit costs less than \$7? Ref: <http://www..radon.com/sub/mi/> .

Get your home tested NOW!

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

Calling all kids, youth from Kindergarten through 8th grade, and adults of all ages including 9th-12th graders! 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 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 March 5.



Tickets will be on sale through March 11 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

Kingdom Challenge --- Watch This Space!

As the March issue of Tidings goes to print, we are in the middle of voting for the finalists in our Kingdom Challenge project. This Sunday, February 26, is the last day to vote during coffee hour. Each vote is \$1, and you can vote as many times as you want, and for as many of the finalists as you want! Please see Chris Weemhoff during coffee hour. We have 12 finalists, and each of them will receive a portion of our total Kingdom Challenge monies. The votes will determine who gets larger portions (based on a percentage of total votes cast). The results will be announced at a Sunday worship service in March, at Bishop's Day on March 3, and will also appear in the April Tidings.

The 12 finalists are: Baldwin – Hope Warming Center, Blessings in a Backpack – Avondale Schools, Forgotten Harvest, Grace Centers of Hope, Habitat for Humanity, Haven, Rochester Area Neighborhood House, Rochester Auburn Hills Community Coalition, Salvation Army, S.O.S., The Women's Fund – Greater Rochester Community Foundation, Troy People Concerned.



We have a number of "new" books donated to our church library by the United Methodist Women's reading program. Every year the national organization chooses books to encourage us to learn about various issues, countries, and deepen our spirituality. The latest books are to be found under Donna's window to the right of the kid's.

Some of the older books though are now part of our regular library. Here are the titles. I think you might enjoy delving into one or more.

- 951 Stories of Twentieth Century Korea written by a man who has spent much time there
- 331.2 The Betrayal of Work written by the former vice president of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union
- 305.5 Nickel and Dimed a rather well known and influential book from 2001 about low wage workers
- 382.71 Shafted Free Trade and America's Working Poor
- 600 A Spiritual Journey Through Breast Cancer
- 900 Cuba Neither Heaven Nor Hell This is about life in Cuba today—the title seems accurate
- 782 Sing the Wondrous Love of Jesus Information about women hymn writers and their songs
- 300 Exodus The Journey to Freedom The story of the historical journey of African American Methodists in the US
- 387.6 Breaking Barriers True story of the first black female Methodist bishop
- 305.234 not much just chillin the hidden lives of middle schoolers
- FIC GIR Joshua in a Troubled World by Joseph Girzone A sequel to the best seller Joshua
- JFIC PAR When My Name Was Keoko by Linda Sue Park True story of Korean children under Japanese occupation in the 1940s. Written by a Newbery Medal winning author. This book is interesting for adults and children.

Thanks UMW for offering us interesting choices for reading during these cold winter months

Happy reading!, Jan Peacock, Librarian

Easter Flowers

Please see the last page (after the birthdays) of this Tidings for the form to order flowers for the Lord's Table on Easter Sunday. The deadline to order is March 18th.



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.

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!



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

	In Memory of	For
March 4	James V. Harrison	Music Ministry
March 11	James V. Harrison	Sanctuary/Chapel Piano
March 18	Hazel LeGrand	Music Ministry
March 25	Hazel LeGrand	Pew Bibles



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

Albert Emil Keebler

A call to Stephen Ministry?

Do you have gifts of compassion?
Are you a good listener?
Do you feel a calling to care for others who are hurting?
Do you desire the personal joy that comes from sharing Christ's love with people?

To find out more about becoming a Stephen Minister
at Troy First call one of our Stephen Leaders.
We're recruiting our next class for the fall of 2012.

Jayne Saeger
Tom Stevens
Bill Rampenthal
Betty Kalvoda

Next UMW Rummage Sale: October 13, 2012

Bored with winter? How about going on a "treasure hunt" to identify clothing, accessories and small household items which you'll plan to donate for the rummage sale.

Many skills are needed to plan and accomplish the various rummage sale tasks. Please prayerfully consider the talents with which you are blessed, and how you might help with this year's sale. Thank-you!

Our Missionary in Liberia

Victor Taryor is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving through the Global Health program in his home country of Liberia. Victor is hospital administrator for Ganta Hospital, a position he has held since 2006.

Also a registered nurse, Victor oversees the daily operation of the hospital while communicating with hospital staff to insure the hospital is providing the best possible care to each patient.

Growing up in a poor subsistence farming family, attending school was difficult and challenging for Victor. With the help of his step-mother he was able to complete his elementary and secondary school education.

Victor attended the Winifred J. Harley School of Nursing and earned his degree in nursing. After working with the Catholic Sisters of Consolata, Victor furthered his nursing education at Cuttington University College in Liberia. As recipient of the Hubert H. Humphrey award, he attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and completed a non-degree program in health policy and administration. Victor served as Director of Nursing Services, Head Nurse and Associate Administrator at Ganta before his appointment as administrator. **"God has blessed me so much in utilizing my career to alleviate suffering and to share the love of God in a meaningful way,"** Victor shares.

Married, Victor and his wife Rebecca are the parents of four adult children and four grandchildren.



**First United Methodist Church of Troy
and the
2012 Youth Mission Trip Team
invite you to our
7th Annual
Dinner Auction Fundraiser
Sunday, March 25, 2012
4:00 to 8:00 pm**

**This is a
“DON’T MISS”
family event with
proceeds
supporting the
2012 Youth
Mission Trip to
Rushville, IN.**

**Invite your
friends, relatives
and neighbors!**

**Auction
donations will be
accepted until
March 11th,
Contact Carole
Welbaum.**

**Doors open @ 4:00pm
for table seating and silent auction.**

Dinner will be served at 5:30pm.

**Exciting live auction
will follow dessert.**

**Fabulous Auction Items include Hotel
getaways, Theatre tickets, restaurant
gift cards, plus much more!**

**Cost: \$12.00 adults \$5.00 children (ages
3-10). Children under 3 are FREE!
There will be children's activities led by
youth during the live auction.**

**First United Methodist Church of Troy
6363 Livernois, Troy, MI 48098
248-879-6363 for more information and tickets**



Saturday Morning Yoga

Have you had an interest in yoga, but were worried about whether you could do it? Eischens yoga is for you!

Eischens Yoga is specifically accessible to all body types and experience levels. The focus is on the energetics of poses and their effects rather than on achieving complex, body-contorting poses. Props, such as yoga blocks are used to help with alignment and modifying poses. A typical class consists of a flowing Eischens Yoga series (including classical and modified poses), transformational work (mini-workshops on poses), and breathing practices and relaxation. Please bring a mat. Class meets from 9-10am on Saturdays, and costs \$10 per class.

Sonya Becker-Boelter, certified Eischens Instructor, has been studying Eischens yoga for six years. She has found the practice to be both physically and emotionally healing.

Join us any Saturday morning, at 9am in the Chapel.

Scrapbooking for March 2012



Once again, on March 31, from 9am-9pm, the Scrapbookers will take over the CLC and spend 12 hours with their projects, photos, and enthusiasm to get their albums done! Are you new to scrapbooking? Do you need some guidance and supplies? This is the place for you! Sign up online, or with Lisa Head, Facilities Coordinator. There is always good food, and good conversation, and a lot of work gets done. See flyer online. Our consultant, Marlo Moeller, is an expert at getting started, working through, and finishing scrapbooks! Hope you need to get a project done this March 31. Join us for the first time, or for the fifth time!

Dance Opportunities for March 2012



We want to make you aware of all the dancing that is happening at Troy First! Each of these groups welcomes newcomers and church members to their dance floor in the CLC! For March, here's how you can start/continue your dancing skills and learn new ones:

Thursdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 is our Royal Scottish Country Dancing. For March, this will begin at 7:15pm with a beginner's lesson, and the first time is free! Try out RSCD if a quiet-paced called-dance is your style.

On Saturday, March 10, we will host our 3rd Ballroom Dance Party. These dances are choreographed by our ballroom dance instructor giving an advanced lesson at 7:00pm, and a beginner's lesson at 7:30pm. Couples are just \$20.00 for the entire evening until 10pm. Refreshments are provided. Open dancing from 8-10pm. All welcome!

On Saturday, March 24, Oakland Country Traditional Dance Society will be hosting a Contra-Dance in our CLC. This is a great night of fellowship and fun, all ages, with a live band! These dances are called, and experienced dancers help the newer dancers feel comfortable and have a good time! Troy First Members get a discount, and if you bring a snack, there is an additional discount. This is really an entertaining night for singles, couples, seniors and families. Please give it a try!

Activity	March 4	March 11	March 18	March 25
Greeters		Jeff, Ann & Alyssa Goff	The Steiger Family	Bill & Joyce Rampenthal
Ushers	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
Crucifer Bible Carrier	Riley Smith Kurt Leverenz	Jamie Miller Jacob Carl	Victoria Aurand Andrew Aurand	Molly Mitchener Jackson Steiger
Acolytes	Grace Voight Haley Sutton	Jessica Carl Alexa DiBartolomeo	Christian Aurand Aaron Goudie	Fay Steiger Brent Goudie
Sound Video Engineers	Steve Olsavsky Lauren Matthews	Jane Egermann Jane Egermann	Karen Carl Meghan Ostrander	Joe Meek Joe Meek
Coffee Hour Hosts	If you would like to help by providing goodies for coffee hour, please call Diane Martin .			
Monday Counters	Mary Jo Johnston Laurie Urbach Sharon Smith	Ben Olesen Tim Teagan Joyce Berard	Jane Egermann Nancy Heffron Jayne Saeger	Chris DeVilling Marie Watson Michelle Williston
Trustee on Duty	Chuck Tincknell	Linda Pushman	Bill Wesp	Jon Bertolet
Flowers for The Lord's Table	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.			
Jr. Church	Brooke Hartrick	Lori Ann Rumel Megan Steiger	Williston Family	Tom Stevens
Faith in Action	Children remain in worship	Kelly Gordon	Ostrander	Alexandra La-Combe
Nursery (Newborns & Crawlers)	Julie Geggie Melody Power	Sharon Ostrander Meghan Ostrander	Angela DiBartolomeo Christine Knoper	Mary Smith Riley Smith
Toddler Room (Walkers-2 year olds)	Jessica Abdo	Sarah Hodroge	Jennifer Rivera	***
3&4 Year Olds	Laurie Mitchener Marianne Melton	Leslie Diebol Stephanie McNett	Kristin Truelove Jessica Urbach	Jill Woods Emily Woods



The Worship Committee is once again offering you an opportunity to buy lilies, tulips and/or hyacinths to decorate our sanctuary in an array of colors. Please indicate your choice on the form below, supply the necessary information and enclose a check made payable to Troy First UMC for \$9.00 for each plant by **Sunday, March 18** (absolute deadline). You may pick up your flowers after worship on Easter Sunday.

How many? Lilies _____ Tulips _____ Hyacinths _____

Total enclosed (\$9.00 each) _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Name: _____ Phone No. _____