

First United
Methodist Church
of Troy

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Tidings



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SUNDAYS

9:30 Contemporary
Worship in the CLC
10:00 Traditional
Worship in the
Sanctuary
10:25-11:00 Jr. Church
11:00-11:20 Coffee
Fellowship
11:20-12:00 Sunday
School for all ages

Your Pastor's Lenten Message

Transforming Power

The message of the Bible is...that into the confusion of man's world, with its divisions and hatred, has come a message of transforming power, and those who believe it will experience within themselves the power that makes for reconciliation and peace on earth...

Thomas Merton
Opening the Bible

God's Word

Whether we are believers or not, when we read the Gospels we are reading a book in which, according to its authors, it is God—rather than man—who speaks to us from its pages:

“Have faith in God and faith in me...I am the way, the truth, and the life...” John 14:1

“The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life.” John 6:63

“I am the resurrection and the life...Whoever believes in me will never die.” John 11:25

Life or Death

He who isn't busy being born is busy dying.

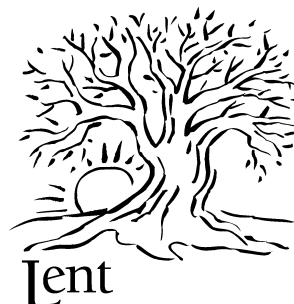
Bob Dylan

Choose Life

“God has given you life. Pass it on and God will surely bless you. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” I Peter 1:3

Striving with you by faith,

Rev. Hal



It's Not Too Late for LOGOS !

If you haven't signed up for our 5-week Lenten LOGOS program, which runs from February 24th to March 24th, we are still accepting participants. Even if you can't attend all sessions, let us know which ones you can attend! You don't want to miss our theme dinners! If you want to join us for a dinner or two, please let the office know by the Monday before so that we can plan on enough food. We will have a Western Night, an Italian Night, St. Patrick's Night, a Fiesta night and an Under the Sea Night, with fun activities and games planned for each one. You don't want to miss Rev. Hal hanging a spoon on his nose! It will be fun for all ages! Registration forms are on the welcome center in the gathering area. Call the office or Nancy Dolehanty with questions.

Financial Report as of January 31, 2010

Operations and Ministries

Building/Mortgage Reduction

	Jan	YTD		Jan	YTD
Budget Requirement	30,300	30,300	Mortgage Pmt	17,568	17,568
Actual Income*	34,826	34,826	Actual Income#	20,023	20,023

*Includes income from Troy Co-op and CLC

#Includes income from CLC

Troy First Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday, February 17, 7:30pm

Palm Sunday, March 28

9:30 Contemporary service in the CLC

10:00 Chancel Choir Presents Cantata in traditional worship. Children will be passing out palms

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7:30pm—Join Troy area churches for a combined worship service with choirs and communion at Big Beaver UMC, 3753 John R (just south of Wattles) in Troy.



Good Friday, April 2, 1:00pm—This heartfelt service with Troy area churches and choirs will be held at Central

Woodward Christian Church, 3955 Big Beaver (at Adams) in Troy.



Easter Sunday, April 4, at Troy First

8:00—Youth-led “Son” rise service with Holy Communion

9:30—Contemporary service in the CLC

10:00—Traditional service in the sanctuary

**EASTER
EGG HUNT!**

11:00—Coffee hour in the CLC

11:00—Easter egg hunt for pre-school & elementary children in the lower lever during coffee hour.



Chancel Choir Presents Palm Sunday Cantata



This year on Palm Sunday, the Chancel Choir will be performing a special cantata during the 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service. Cantata 182 (*Himmelskönig, sei willkommen* - King of Heaven, Be Thou Welcome) is the only cantata that Bach wrote specifically for Palm Sunday, and, as such, is perfect for Holy Week. Cantata 182 is a joyous work of about 30 minutes' duration with three wonderful chorus movements, plus alto, tenor and bass solos.

The text has three sources: Psalm 40:8-9, the Palm Sunday Gospel (Matthew 21:1-9) recounting Christ's entry into Jerusalem, and a strophe from the hymn "*Jesu Leiden, Pein und Tod*" (Jesus Suffering, Anguish & Death – 1633) by Paul Stockmann. This last was also used as a text source by Bach in his more famous “St. John’s Passion.”

We hope you will join us on Palm Sunday as we “pray twice” with this glorious work.

Trustees Need Your Help!!

Many of you are probably aware that each Sunday there is a Trustee on Duty to prepare the church for worship and all of the other activities that take place on Sunday mornings. This includes unlocking doors, turning on lights, making sure the temperature settings are comfortable, and that the walk is clear of snow and salted as needed. After Sunday school is complete, these tasks are repeated to close up the church.

One of the safety related tasks performed is to close all of the fire doors. These are the double metal doors that separate various sections of the building (for example, the doors between the Narthex and Mercer Hall). In total there are seven sets of fire doors in the building. There is not a Trustee on Duty Monday-Saturday, but there are obviously many activities going on in the church on those days. We need all of your help to make sure that the fire doors remain closed at all times Monday – Saturday (there will be some exceptions, but for the most part, this is a good rule to live by). The fire doors give us between 1 and 2 hours of protection in case of a fire, minimizing potential damage.

Thank you for your conscientious help!

Marie Watson,
Co-Chair Trustees

Baldwin Warming Center

Sign Up Now

Remember to mark your calendars for Monday, March 22nd through Thursday, March 25th to help at Baldwin Warming Center. Sign up will begin on Sunday, February 28th in the CLC. You can also contact Anne or Ron Butterbaugh to reserve your date.

We will meet at the church each evening at 6:45 to carpool to Pontiac and will return by 10:45. Needed are 10-12 people each night to register guests, hand out toiletries and blankets, and prepare and serve dinner. In addition, 2 overnight volunteers (1 man and 1 woman) will be needed on a nightly basis.

Please also see Anne or Ron Butterbaugh if you are able to donate some of the paper products or other items we will need throughout the week.

Michigan Area Reporter

The Detroit and West Michigan Conferences announced a partnership with UMR Communications in October 2009 to produce a new Michigan Area newspaper. With tightening budgets and the diminishing readership of the *Michigan Christian Advocate*, the conferences chose to discontinue their funding of the *Advocate* in order to pursue a more extensive, cost-effective and more widely distributed print publication for the Michigan Area. A subscription to the Michigan Area Reporter is \$12 per year for 12 issues. To subscribe, send your name, address, church/city along with your check to Michigan Area Reporter, P. O. Box 226625, Dallas, TX 75222-6625.

UMW NEWS

Cluster Luncheon

The annual Cluster Pot-luck Luncheon with the other Troy UMW groups will be on Tuesday, March 9, at noon, at Troy Fellowship UMC (Coolidge & Wattles). Bring a dish to pass and a non-perishable food item. Contact Sue Olesen no later than March 4 for your reservation. We will enjoy a fashion show of clothing that has been donated to the Assistance League of Rochester and will hear about the work they do.

March Circle Meetings

Why not invite someone to attend a Circle meeting with you! Ruth Circle will meet on March 11 at 9:30am at the church. Chris Gullion will tell you everything you ever wanted to know about the UMW Reading Program.

The Deborah Circle will also meet on March 11 at 7:30pm at the home of Jan Peacock who will also have the program. She is looking into a Bible Study video that we might preview.

Fellowship Luncheon

The UMW has several Fellowship Luncheons each year. They are open to all women of Troy First - you don't have to be a UMW member to attend. Mark your calendar for the next luncheon at Camp Ticonderoga - Wednesday, March 31 at 11:30 a.m. Call Linda DeVilling if you can attend.

Got the Winter "Blahs?"

Think Spring! Clean your closets and pack up un-needed clothing and small household items for the **May 22nd Rummage Sale!**

Prayer Shawls and Baby Shawls

At the UMW National Assembly, April 30-May 2 in St. Louis, prayer shawls and baby blankets are being collected. More than 1600 were collected at the last assembly. They will be given to people in need or sold to support UMW missions. If you would like to donate to this project look for the details on the UMW bulletin board in the Mercer Hallway. There will be a collection box in the Mercer Hallway. Any questions, contact Ann Goff.

Craft Group

We will be expanding the cookie walk in December to include some craft items and are making hand made Christmas cards. If you would like to donate cards, please remove personal notes and pictures but there is no need to remove the greeting - it can be used too. Used cards can be left in Linda DeVilling's mailbox at the church. Watch the UMW bulletin board and/or your email for information about getting together to make other craft items.

Program Book

Our annual UMW program book is finished—the 2010 theme is "Let's Get Together." Thanks to Penny Laws for all her hard work of preparing the booklet, to Jan Chamberlain for proof reading and to Donna Klungle for her assistance with formatting and help with printing. Also thanks to the crew who assembled the booklet.

**If you print this newsletter,
please recycle it!**



The Worship Committee is once again offering you an opportunity to buy lilies, tulips and/or hyacinths to decorate our sanctuary and CLC 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 \$8.00 for each plant by **Sunday, March 21** (absolute deadline). You may pick up your flowers after the worship service you attend on Easter Sunday.

How many? Lilies _____ Tulips _____ Hyacinths _____

Total enclosed (\$8.00 each) _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Name _____

Phone No. _____

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

*** Volunteers needed

Activity	March 7	March 14	March 21	March 28
Greeters	The Williston Family	Jerry and Jean Wrage	Dale and Mary Jo Johnston	Randy and Sheila Wilson
Ushers	Ed Freeland Marie Leverenz Doug Smith Mary Smith	Karen Carl Ben Olesen Tom Stevens Marie Watson	Patti Aurand Chris DeVilling Corwin Hanson Bob Himes	Terry Pritchett Lyle Pushman Roger Steiger Chuck Tincknell
Crucifer Bible Carrier	Anna Olsavsky Kara Olsavsky	Rachel Voight Chris Churay	Andrew Aurand Jessica Abdo	Missy Clay Jacob Carl
Acolytes	Beth Rhoades Meghan Rhoades	Grace Voight Lauren Matthews	Brianna Abdo Victoria Aurand	Jessica Carl Elise Leverenz
Sound Engineers	Steve Olsavsky	Staci Drake	Jane Egermann	Karen Carl
Coffee Hour Hosts	If you would like to donate goodies to coffee hour, please see Diane Martin.			
Monday Counters March 1 Judy Conley Jane Egermann Bunny Schultz	March 8 Joyce Berard Ben Olesen Lee Ann Teagan	March 15 Jane Egermann Nancy Heffron Jayne Saeger	March 22 Nancy Heffron Julie Olsavsky Marie Watson	March 29 Janice Drager Chris Gullion Jan Garrett
Trustee on Duty	Rick Wright	Marie Watson	Bill Schaper	Ralph Truelove
Altar Flowers	Kimberlee & Bob Urwiller			
Jr. Church	Patti Aurand Kathy Sobanski	Lori Ann Rumel Lee Ann Teagan	Michelle Williston	Tom Stevens Lyn Moore
Faith in Action	Remain in Church for Communion	Marie Leverenz	Kelly Gordon	Remain in Church for the Cantata
Nursery (Newborns-Crawlers)	Lisa Michaux Gwen Simon Tina Olesen	Jane Berquist Melissa Meek	Angela DiBartolomeo Chris Knoper	Mary Robertson
Toddlers (Walkers-2s)	Geoffrey Williston Gary Williams	Jessica Urbach	Jennifer Rivera	
3/4 Year Olds	The Mitchener Family	Katie Kuiper Ann Goff	Sharon Ostrander Kristen Truelove	Jill Woods Emily Woods

One Great Hour of Sharing

When the first tremors of the earthquake in Haiti rocked that island nation, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) staff were already in country, strategizing how United Methodists could help improve the lives of the people there. Their work is a direct result of the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, which supports the operating expenses of those who bring healing and help in our name. It makes it possible, when we respond to an emergency like Haiti, to know that 100% of our gift goes directly to where the suffering is happening. Every year, but this year more than ever, we hope you'll join with the faithful across the church to support the One Great Hour of Sharing.

Enclosed with this Tidings is the One Great Hour of Sharing envelope for the offering to be taken on March 14th.



Our next Blood Drive is March 26th, one week before Good Friday. We will start signing up donors March 7th in the Gathering Area. Our drives are always prior to holidays for which blood is always urgently needed.

If you are unable to donate blood, you can still be a part of this life-saving program by volunteering at the registering table, serving beverages and cookies at the after-care table, or providing cookies or part of the meal served to the Red Cross staff and volunteers. Homemade cookies and the meal have made our Blood Drives special to both donors and workers.

Call Bernona Fry if you can help.

Dinner Auction? What's that?

For the fifth year in a row, the youth will be hosting their annual dinner/auction on March 14 at 4:30pm with dinner served at 5:30pm. There is still time to purchase your auction tickets to support the youth mission trip to Spring Grove, PA. Tickets will be on sale in coffee hour through February 28. There are only 113 tickets left and this event does sell out! You will be delighted to find your table assignments reserved for you as you enter our dining room. Many tables will have silent auction items displayed for you to peruse and write down your bid. Following dessert, the live auction begins with many packages and get-away weekends available. We are still accepting donations for the auction through February 28 as well. If you would like to make a donation please contact Sheryl Van Gorder.

Our experienced and quite entertaining auctioneer will keep the bidding quick and painless. This afternoon/evening is one of, if not the most, fun event that takes place in our CLC the entire year! You won't want to miss it! Bid high and bid often to support our youth on their summer mission trip!

Are You a Scrap Booker?

Do you need a good chunk of time to catch up on your Scrapbooking? We are hosting a two-day event in our CLC, for scrapbookers of all levels! Our consultant, Marlo Moeller, will be here, fresh back from the Olympics, with her pictures to share with everyone! She'll have great ideas, plenty of scrapping tools, and great examples!! We provide the food and drink for the entire 14 hours of scrapping!

That's a long time!!! So, register soon for March 12, from 6-12midnight, and/or March 13 from 8am-4pm! You will have a great time, and get so much accomplished!! Register with Lisa Head soon!

Help Is Needed!

As a service to the church, the United Methodist Women prepare and serve a luncheon following funerals. Donations of food and assistance serving are always needed. Another service is that a prepared dinner is offered to church families when a family member is hospitalized. If you would be willing to assist with future luncheons or prepare a dinner, please contact Chris Gullion or LaNae Michael.

Iron Chef Reigns Supreme

On February 14, our youth had their own Iron Chef competition. Chocolate was the secret ingredient and their offerings were amazing. We had chocolate chip cookie sandwiches from scratch and caramelized bananas with chocolate cherry sauce. The youth, the judges and the counselors all went home in a sugar high! We certainly have some amazing chefs in our youth group!



From Rochester Area Neighborhood House

Dear First United Methodist Church of Troy Members,

The staff, board of directors, and volunteers of Neighborhood House thank you for your generous donation. Your financial contribution will support our outreach work that helps feed, clothe and/or provide financial assistance for a specific bill our client(s) are unable to pay.

It is only through the support of our supporting churches such as yourself that we are able to meet the needs of our neighbors during times of hardship. We are blessed in many ways to have your generous support.

We are grateful for the confidence you have shown in Neighborhood House and appreciate your continued support and generosity.

*With gratitude,
Kim Spampinato, Executive Director*

Note: \$500 from our Christmas offering was donated to Rochester Area Neighborhood House.

Sending Valentine Thank Yous!

Thank you to everyone who donated candy for the Higher Education Mission by letting our college members know they are loved by God and us. The packages are a nice way of linking us to them while they are away or home studying. A special thank you to all the Junior Church kids who made fantastic, colorful Valentine cards to include with the candy. You are all very generous and appreciated.

*Sandy Sands
Higher Education*

Scouts Fill the Church

Our 2nd All Scout Sunday was held on February 7th, 2010. Geoff Williston presented the color guard and led the congregation in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Boy Scout Oath. Carly Gordon led the saying of the Girl Scout Promise. Participating Boy Scouts were Christian Aurand, Jake Bertolet, Josh Bertolet, Andrew Gordon, Merrick Rumel, Ethan Van Gorder, Maclean Willcock and Geoffrey Williston. The Girl Scouts were represented by Alyssa Goff, Carly Gordon, Lauren Jakobiak, Claire Matthews, Lane Ann Rumel, Fay Steiger, Jewel Wesp, Krista Williston, and Sarah Williston. In addition to presenting the flags in worship, the scouts served as greeters and hosted coffee hour. Thank you, Scouts!

Editor's note: Thanks to Laurie Mitchener and Lee Matthews who coordinated all of this.

Turkeyville Anyone ?

Coming on Saturday, June 26th is another chance to do a day trip for a great dinner and a wonderful musical, "The Church Basement Ladies 2." Let Jayne Saeger know if you would like to be part of the group.