



The Tidings

March 2010

Ministerial Moments

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We have come to the season known as Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word meaning Spring. Of course, with all the snow we've had recently, we know that we are not yet in Spring, but Spring is coming soon.

Lent consists of the 40 days, excluding Sundays, before Easter. Sundays are excluded because they celebrate the resurrection of Christ and are therefore a feast day.

Lent has been celebrated since at least the 4th Century and was a time during which people who had fallen away from the church did penance and other people studied for their baptism and inclusion in the church.

Some people fast during Lent, others attempt to give

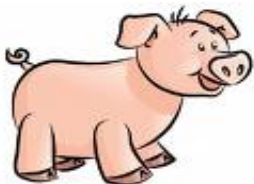
something up, particularly if they have a bad habit they want to get rid of. Other people use this as a time to serve other people. The goal of Lent is Spiritual Growth, a feeling of becoming closer to God.

For some this may mean a time of deep self-examination; what would I like to change about myself, what more can I do or give than I have been doing or giving?

One thing I have been trying to do is to spend a bit more time in silence so that God has a chance to get through my constant babble. Some people are very good at meditating and praying while they sit still and silent, others find prayer and

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Wurstmarkt Time!!!



You know it's almost Spring when you see the pink pig in the front lawn of the church in March. Yes it's that time again. Wurstmarkt Time!!! **Saturday, March 20 - 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.

There will be music from 4:30 to 6:00 by the Hurst Family in worship hall. Diners can listen while waiting for diner and then go back up to listen afterwards. See the sign up list or call Susan Olyer (3324) or Bobbi Duffie (3489) to find out where help is most needed. Also there

March Birthday's

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
Timothy Campbell	31

March Anniversary's

Dennis & Nicole Sinn	10
Bill & Carol Gladson	15
Kenneth & Lorrie Lehman	20
Robert & Imogene Lehman	21
Warren & Kay Trotter	21

Bowling and Pizza !!!



What's better than Bowling and Pizza Party? Nothing so come out on Sunday March 7th and bowl with us.

We will be bowling from 1:00-3:00pm at the Star Lanes in Sparta. Funds and Fellowship will be covering the cost of the bowling, shoe rental, pizza and soda. Please come and bring a friend. The more the merrier.

Greeter and Usher List for 2010/2011

The Greeter and Usher list for 2010/2011 can be found on pages 5 & 6 of the newsletter. Please look over the list and find when you are scheduled. If you are scheduled on a day that you can not make it, please let the church know as soon as possible. Contact a church council member or a member of the spiritual council.

Easter Vigil & Sunrise Service

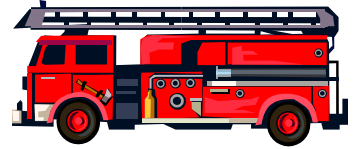
We are hosting the Easter Vigil this year on Saturday April 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service is being hosted this year by Marissa United Methodist. Not for sure of the time.



Fire Department Visit

On Monday, February 15, the Marissa Fire Chief, Kevin Leemon and several other firemen, including our own David Pilbean, came to learn the layout of our church. Several even arrived with the fire truck. All of the firemen were friendly but very professional as they viewed every inch of the church. It was interesting to watch and listen to. We were impressed with these men and one woman. They were all business as they made comments and asked questions of each other about the structure. They will be sending an information letter to our council president, David Schneidewind, along with any recommendations that they would have regarding the fire safety of our church.



Janice Schmidt



One Great Hour of Sharing

If it's Spring, it must be time for One Great Hour of Sharing. One Great Hour of Sharing is one of the UCC five special offerings per year. You will find a small brochure and offering envelope in this Tidings.

One Great Hour of Sharing supports international programs of health, education, and agricultural development, relief, and refugee assistance. It will be collected on March 14.

Sonshine Corner News

Sonshine Corner had their quarterly meeting on February 2 at 1:30 in the afternoon. Change over is set for the week of March 15. We will have a half price sale starting on the 10th of February. We have donated \$2,000, \$1,000 of that was given to the Ministerial Association to be used for food vouchers at the food pantry.

I really appreciate Cliff Owens plugging in the heat tape when the weather turned real cold a while back. Those are the things, "lady mangers" don't think or know about. Thank you Cliff. Also to Joe and Cliff for changing the light bulb in the store, when it was driving everyone a little crazy with it's flickering. Now that sounds like a pretty simple task, but unless you were there you knew better. It took a huge heavy ladder which had to be put across the counter, with out hitting the fan or the ceiling, so thank you both Joe and Cliff!!

Come and shop at Sonshine Corner. Shoppers play a huge part of making Sonshine Corner a success.

Ruby Lehman

Ministerial Moments Continued

meditation easier if they are taking a walk or in some way out in nature. There is no “right” way. Each person finds the form of “spirituality” that works best for them. Some people like candles, some don’t. Some find comfort and soothing from aromatherapy, others probably would be cautious of what smells were used. Some people love the sound of water and have indoor fountains. That is one that doesn’t work for me. My personal favorite for meditation or when I’m writing a sermon is to light a candle and play classical music. Each of us must explore what works best for us.

A suggestion from ucc.org from a couple years ago, for daily self-examination was to:

- 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/is 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?
- For whom do you feel called to continue to pray?
- What lingers in your heart that you feel 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.

Pastor Gail

Pre-Lenten Breakfast

Picture taken at the Pre-Lenten Breakfast on Saturday, February 13. Debra Finch who used to attend Friedens occasionally with her grandparents when she was a child. Her grandparents were members Charles and Amanda Schatte. Her sister Charlotte Shipp is next to her and then her Aunt Mildred Bald of New Athens. (The next lady in the shot was seated with them and is Gloria Pannier)



Debra had seen a flyer of the event and they decided to come. She had called church earlier in the morning and I happened to be the one who answered the phone.





MARCH 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Daughters Mtg. 7:00 pm	2	3 Lent @ Friedens 7:00 Choir Practice after service	4 Pastor Gail at workshop Minis- try to the Aging in Caseyville	5	6
7 Bowling Party @ Star Lanes 1-3 pm	8	9 Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm	10 Lent @ Lenzburg 7:00 Choir Practice after service	11 Pastor Gail at Conference Council Mtg at Okawville	12 Pastor Gail at Workshop Minis- try to the Dying at Eden	13
14 One Great Hour of Shar- ing collection Set your Clocks up!	15 Sonshine Corner Change Over	16	17 Lent @ Biddleborn 7:00 Choir Practice after service	18	19	20 Wurstmarkt 3-7:00 pm
21	22	23	24 Lent @ Friedens 7:00 Choir Practice after service	25	26	27
28 Palm Sunday	29	30	31	April 1 Maundy Thursday Service @ Friedens 6:00 pm		April 3 Easter Vigil Friedens 7:30 pm



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*"Through the Spirit we are
a Church on the Move:
Welcoming, Caring,
Sharing."*

Maundy Thursday - Seder

Passover and Holy Week correspond again this year. Since I have not done so since I have been at Friedens, we will be having our version of a Seder, or Passover meal, here on Maundy Thursday, April 1 beginning at 6:00PM. The Passover ritual goes on throughout the meal and will lead directly into the Lord's Supper with the fourth cup of wine or juice. Because Seder usually includes four cups of wine, I have decided that we will use communion cups and have more grape juice than normal so that those of you who wish to switch to grape juice at any time may do so. There will be no sermon, but I am hoping that in addition to the meal and ritual that we will have fun because my experience of a Seder at a Jewish friends' house in Los Angeles is that there is a lot of fun, reminiscing, songs, and a few games. Putting the Last Supper in context with a Seder is a very meaningful experience.



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