

The Wesley Message From Center Street

Clarence UMC Monthly Newsletter February 2009

Volume 1 Issue II



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Did you ever have a question that really bugged you?

With all the wisdom you have; with your ability to use your thinking powers, and you go over and over it in your mind, but the question still begs an answer?

God would have us to understand how He can resolve the biggy. "Where are you going to spend eternity?"

Don't you just love it when you encounter someone who just exudes an assurance that they have their flight plans all in order? They have their ticket punched and when God's time occurs, they just step out in faith and declare, "Lord, I'm ready, take me home!"

It is a tragedy when people feel that God just doesn't know how indecisive they are. Wandering around in the "desert," the future so risky, fear around every corner, maybe assuming everyone goes to Heaven.

But, in their darkness can be the light of Jesus, inviting them to step out towards Him in order to take the full armament of God, and know forgiveness, know God loves them and Christ died for them. Now Heaven's doors can open wide ready for their entrance.

Aren't you content when you know that within yourself, God has not forsaken you, will not forsake you, and is ready to greet you?

Finally, to know that you know that you know that nothing, not a thing, can ever separate you from the Love of God through Jesus, your personal Savior and Lord.

There was Joy in Heaven as Rose Masten was baptized and became a member of the Clarence UMC. I wait for others to accept my invitation following our Membership Training Class to make their decision if they wish to be baptized, how they want to be baptized, and join the Clarence UMC.

Congratulations to those Youth who have been honored to be a member of the National Honor Society. You are amazing, all of you, with your temperament, your humbleness and your desires to achieve higher goals.

It is always a blessing when you who have been blessed with musical talents want to share yourself with us. It is a tremendous experience when anyone steps to the plate without any practice and hits a homerun.

What might seem to be a challenge to other Congregat-ions becomes just another opportunity to those of you who see the value of your financial support, even now to restore the basement. I have discovered there is nothing too big, no mountain too high to climb, no need to detour, just meet up with the needs and move on to other victories.

Dear Member of the United Methodist Church,

We need your help with the
CLARENCE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

The Celebration will begin
Sunday, February 22, 1009
and continue throughout the year
ending, the First Sunday in
February, 2010.

The Lydia Circle has the blessing of our U.M.C. Board to proceed with our 100 year celebration and

it was suggested that on each of the above 52 Sunday's a note of church history be included in each bulletin.

With your help, "Is the following possible?"

It is suggested ----that we publish a 100 year history of our Clarence U.M.C. comparable to the "History of Clarence, Missouri" Published by Clarence Historical Society.

A Church Pictorial Directory is in the planning stages for the fall of 2009. Photo's ready by Christmas.

It is suggested ----that the photos from the Directory be included in the Church History Book. Each person or each family write their family history and it would be placed under their photo similar to the written family history, under photos,' in Clarence History Book. Include your first recollection, or association with your church and when you joined. I know the officers or positions you and your family held in the Church or Sunday school would be of interest.

A United Methodist Cookbook is in the planning stages, with Jeanna Rutter as committee chairman. Please get your recipes to her as soon as possible.

Is a long serving tray with the picture of our church as seen from Center Street a possibility?

The Quilting Ladies

of our Church have completed the Centennial Quilt that will be sold at the Lord's Hour Sale in November 2009.

December 4, 2008, the Lydia Circle voted unanimously to disband and join the United Methodist Women. At their March meeting, the U.M.W. will decide if they want to help with our 100 year celebration.

Updated History Needed

We have no updated history since 984. That publication was compiled by Isabel Hutcherson, Chairman, and Imogene Cross, Historical Chairman. It was titled, "Bicentennial of Methodism in America 1860-1984."

Quote: "On Sunday, February 21, 1909, at the close of a revival meeting, the pastor, Rev. H. Horwood Johnson, called upon the church members to undertake the erection of a new house of worship."

Quote: "On Easter Sunday, April 11, 1909, Rev. H. Horwood Johnson announced that about \$8,000 had been raised toward the cost of the new church."

Quote: "Opening services in the new Methodist Church were held on Sunday, February 6, 1910."

Quote: "It is important to following generations that we leave a printed record of Methodism in Clarence since its beginning in 1860. The written history of the church structure,

congregational achievements other various factual records and the spiritual life of the church should be recorded to portray a rich heritage to our present and future members of Clarence United Methodist Church.

A church family that does not know from where or how it came into being is poor indeed. A church family that is aware of its rich blessings handed down by its forefathers inter-weaves a loving close-knit fellowship, growing in faith toward the goal of Christian perfection. The prayer for this writing is: "May it all be to the glory of our heavenly Gather, and may it be pleasing in His sight."

A **BIG**
Thank You!

*For any input and
help you can give*

Clarence UMC Board

Clarence United
Methodist Board Meets
January 21, 2009

A large attendance for the monthly meeting of the Clarence UMC board was welcomed by Terry Mefford, Chairman. He also expressed his thanks to all for their support of the fundraiser last Sunday for Denise and Max Mefford. Attending were Rev. Beryl, Terry Mefford, Lee Schoonover, Jim Watson, Susan McCarty, Barbara Chittum, Dawn Masten, David Masten, DeEtte Carroll, Ivan Carroll, and Amy Presson.

Rev Beryl opened the meeting with prayer. Lynda read the minutes from the December meeting which were approved as read.

Amy presented her treasurer's report. After review and discussion the report was accepted as presented.

Barbara Chittum was then given the floor to update the board as to plans being made for the centennial beginning in February 2009 and running through 2010. She is planning a card cover history book, incorporating the old publications from days past, and adding information commencing from the 1984 history which was done by Isabel Hutcherson and Imogene Cross. While a new 2009 directory is planned with actual photograph sessions to be done in

the fall, this 2009 directory will also be included in the history book. Barbara is asking for help with a few of the remaining topics needed to make the history complete. She is in need for some members of the congregation to write about the Sunday school classes, Lay Speakers, Men classes, Altar flower stewards, Lord's Hour Sale, etc. If anyone wished to contribute to this effort, please let Barbara know.

Barbara also informed the board that she is continuing the contact made with Carol Kreamer, of the Mozambique Initiative. While we have not budgeted the Mozambique project, she is keeping is aware of their continuing challenges. On another note, she has purchased the new copies of the Discipline and Resolutions and placed them in the church office for all to use as needed.

Lee Schoonover addressed the board about the new 2009 budget that he and Amy have been working on. A print out was presented and edited as needed, so they can proceed. It was stated that the youth group Spaghetti Dinner plans are that ½ of the profit will go towards the basement remodel and the other ½ will help fund their ski trip, planned for February. Lee asked about an increase in lay benefits and after discussion, because of budget constraints they will remain the same as 2008.

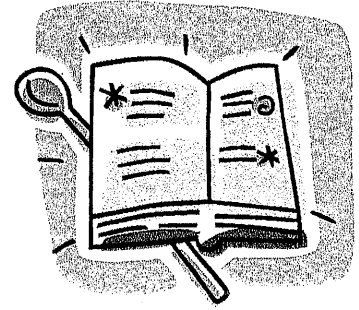
Dawn and David Masten presented the options for the new Audio-Visual equipment for the Sanctuary. After review, the board agreed that the best option was to use TV's instead of a roll-down screen. David had constructed a cardboard prop to demonstrate the size options using three different size TV's. They range from 50", 58", and 60" and require two TV's. Other options were discussed. Dawn and David will visit another church which has already installed a system to see how it works and how satisfied the congregation is with their choices. The board wants to be cautious and make the most informed decision they can.

The spring Revival is planned for March with Randy Berry serving as speaker. A Ladies Tea and a Men's Breakfast is in the planning stages. An exact date has not been set, as several women rare attending the Women of Faith conference in March.

Regarding our Lay Representative to replace Jim Watson this year, it was decided to inform the congregation and see if anyone would like to volunteer to

attend. It will be Friday -Monday, June 5-8 in Springfield, MO.

Jim moved we adjourn.
Secretary, Lynda Proper



Clarence United Methodist Church Centennial Cookbook 2009

A Centennial cookbook is being compiled to honor the wonderful cooks past and present of our church. Proceeds of this cookbook will be designated towards the remodeling of the church basement.

You may enter as many recipes as you wish. You can either use the provided recipe sheets or use any recipe card or paper you'd like. Recipes may be handwritten or typed. Please leave your recipes in the basket at the back of the church. You may also add 1-2 sentences of special notes. To save some time, send recipes to Jeanna by email:

krutter@nemonet.com.

Here are the categories:

- Appetizers & Beverages
- Soups & Salads
- Vegetables & Side Dishes
- Main Dishes
- Bread & Rolls
- Desserts
- Cookies & Candy
- This & That
- Heritage Specialties

Heritage Specialties include recipes in honor of beloved family members who have passed on.

Recipe deadline: Sunday, March 1, but please turn them in as soon as possible so we can get them typed up.

Cookbook Committee: Jeanna, Lucy & Maggie Rutter, Shana Threlkeld, Kim Thompson, Willie Sam Thompson




Basement Remodel Update

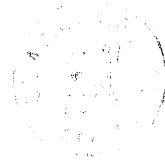
The remodel is going well, with us about midway through the work to restore and update. Some of the old existing wall studs have been replaced because of decay, and all the walls are now rewired with more outlets, switches, and new and better lighting being added. The perimeter walls have been insulated, and lots of the drywall is already hung. Surely newly painted walls can't be too far off! New walls have been added, making three additional Sunday school classrooms, and the nursery has been expanded. The two restrooms have been updated to make them wheel chair accessible, and are both unisex indicated. One is accessible from the kitchen area and the other from the south part of the basement. The old kitchen cabinets are to be divided up and installed in each of the classrooms for much needed storage. New kitchen cabinets have been ordered for the kitchen area. A Chapel area for the children's Sunday school opening exercises has been planned using the piano, an antique podium, and a permanent location place for the puppet theater.

February 2009



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 Nursery- Sharon Schoonover	2	3	4 Prayer Group Youth Groups Choir Practice	5	6	7 Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
8 Nursery- Barb Blaine	9	10	11 Prayer Group Youth Groups Choir Practice	12	13	14 Valentines Day 
15 Nursery - Ruth Wood	16 President's Day	17	18 Prayer Group Youth Groups Choir Practice Board Meeting	19	20	21 Men's Breakfast Meeting
22 Nursery - Denise Quinley	23	24	25 Prayer Group Youth Groups Choir Practice Ash Wednes	26	27	28

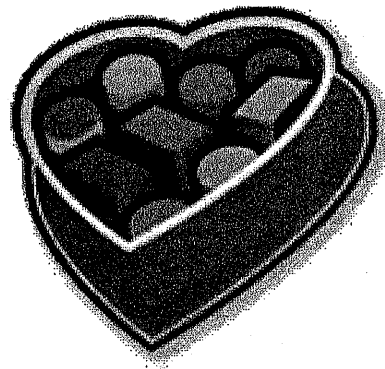
Clarence United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 128
Elm and Center Streets
Clarence, MO 63437



Dawn Masten
209 East Vine Street
Clarence MO 63437

Birthdays & Anniversaries
February

1. Barbara Chittum
2. Glenna Daniel
4. Steve Foster
6. Miles Hutcherson
9. Herb & Marge Williams, Anniv.
11. Paul & Kim Hutcherson, Anniv.
12. Kirsten Schuster
13. Sarah Hoffman
Herb Williams
14. Berna Fae Loft
15. Martha McVay
Corey Blackford
Drew Boling
16. Jim & Marsha Collins, Anniv.
Ashley Thrasher
20. Collette Kinney
Betsy Mefford
21. Tom & Joyce Ellyson, Anniv.
23. Kathy Gerrish
24. Harold & Martha McVay, Anniv.
Julie Hoffman Helm
26. Jill Barry
Wilma Dorothy Chambers
27. Diana Clem Bogert
Emilee Danielle Barr
Sarah Baird
28. Andy Boling
Halle Mueller
Hayden Michael Burns
29. Scott & Kim Thompson, Anniv.



- **188 million** Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second-most popular greeting-card-giving occasion. (This total excludes packaged kids valentines for classroom exchanges.) (Source: Hallmark research)
- **Over 50 percent** of all Valentine's Day cards are purchased in the six days prior to the observance, making Valentine's Day a procrastinator's delight. (Source: Hallmark research)