

The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 13

March 2011

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

March 9th will begin our observance of the season of Lent. An Ash Wednesday communion service will be offered from 6:00 to 7:00 that evening in the church sanctuary. At any time during that hour you may come and receive communion and / or the ash upon the forehead.

In addition to this service marking the beginning of our Lenten journey, many of us will be giving up something for Lent in order to remind us of the ultimate sacrifice which God made for us through Christ upon the cross of Calvary! Such spiritual disciplines bless our lives not only during Lent, but throughout the year as well.

For those of you who practice the spiritual discipline of attending church and keeping the Sabbath, Dr. Steve Jackson offers the following testimony from the days of the early settlers of our country:

Back in the 1880's a wagon train was traveling from St. Louis to Oregon along the Oregon Trail. Its members were devout Christians, so the whole group observed the habit of stopping for the Sabbath day. Winter was approaching quickly, and some among the group began to panic in fear that they would not reach their destination before the heavy snows. Several members proposed to the rest of the group that they should quit their practice of stopping for the Sabbath and continue driving onward seven days a week. This proposal divided the close knit community. Finally it was suggested that the wagon train should split into two groups: those who wanted to continue to observe the Sabbath and those who preferred to travel on that day. The proposal was accepted.

Guess which group got to Oregon first? That's right, the ones who kept the Sabbath reached their destination first. The people and their horses were so rested by their Sabbath observance that they could travel



United Methodist Women Program and Invitation

The UMW program for March will be held on March 2nd at 7pm in the social room of the church. The Program topic will be Prayer and Self-Denial. Persons: Judy Bowers, Greeters: Cindy Mollenkopf and Leta Feasby and Hostesses: Vicki Saylor and Mary Ann Hall.

The Convoy United Methodist Women would like to invite you to participate in our organization that is mission minded and continues to educate us on the women and children issue here and around the world. Our monthly gathering is held on the first Wednesday of each month, September through May at 7pm in the church social room. There is a program, a business meeting and sharing time with refreshments. The women provide, prepare and serve food for the Convoy Lions Club Suppers, funeral dinners, church functions, banquets, graduation parties, wedding rehearsal & receptions, class reunions and we are not shy about trying new things. If you would like to check us out, plan on coming to a meeting or two and see what we do! The group is selling Rada server spoons and paring knives for \$5 each as a fundraiser to help meeting the UMW pledge of \$1200 for 2011. Reminder, UMW members, if you have not paid your pledges, please get them to Vicki Saylor

much more effectively the other six days!
Thus, may the spiritual disciplines of the church bless you during the season of Lent as well as the journey throughout the year!
Yours in Christ,
Greg Leigh, pastor

Administrative Board

The Administrative Board will meet on the 4th Thursday in March the 24th at 7:00pm. The administrative board would like to invite all administrative board members to attend. We are deciding on the direction of many important issues that face our church family.

Mission Report

We would like to thank everyone for his or her donations and time to make this year's Valentine's Dinner a big success. We raised \$1154 for the mission trip. We could not have done this without the help of everyone.

LOAVES OF LOVE

March Collections for Loaves of Love are Veggie Soup and Nutri-Grain Bars. Shawna is very excited about the blessings that are being provided to feed our children.

"Thank you so much for the generous check for \$408. Because of you, we are able to continue to purchase food for the Loaves of Love Program. We also appreciate the food items that you continue to collect as a church family. It has been so rewarding to watch God work in the lives of others. God Bless each of you."

The Putman Family

Preschool Fundraiser

The next fundraiser will be held at Bob Evans on March 17th. Look for flyers in the March church bulletins. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the us.

Calendar of Events

If you have any upcoming events you would like to have included in the next Parish Portrait please e-mail or write it down and put it in the box marked Parish Portrait in the vestibule.

Girl Scout Sunday	March 6 th
Ash Wednesday	March 9 th 6pm-7pm
Trinity Performs	March 20 th 9:30am services combined
Youth Bible Study	March 20 th
UMM Breakfast	1 st Sunday monthly 7:30am
Administrative Board	4 th Thursday monthly 7:00pm
Trustees	3rd Wednesday monthly 7:00pm
Lions Club Meetings	1 st & 3 rd Monday monthly

Prayer Concerns

Troy Hammond, Madison Ringwald, Sondra Shepherd, Maggie Bixler, Vickie (Gleckler) Troyer, Bryan Stewart, Fritzi Stewart, Jim Ryan. Genia McOmber, Jean McClure, Arlene Mollenkopf, Diane Mezuk Clemons, Betty Fortney, Esten Fortney, Joan Gauvey, Suzanne Hale, Ezella McIntosh, Gary Williams, Dave Springer, Harold Etgen, Bob Wertenberger, Betty Springer. Tony Tubleson, Norman Ward, Care and Steve Placke, Linda and Wendel Ralsten, PFC Curtis Yetman, Jim Thomas, Peg Fortney, Cheryl and Jerry Ellis, The family of Cheryl Gehres-Zellers, The family of Juanita Black, The family of Mark Dingus. The families of Wanita Exman and Joyce Miller in the loss of their mothers. Unspoken Requests.

Please place additions or corrections in the green basket in the vestibule or downstairs on the typewriter.

And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and He healed the sick.

Matthew 14:14 KJV

CHURCH NOTES 2 KNOW

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING

If you would like to have an article published in any of the local newspapers. Please let Vickie Saylor know at: 419-749-2055.

***Above is a change from 2010*

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is in the planning stages. It looks like it will be "Panda Mania" this year. Please contact Delta Dingus if you would like to help. I hear there is an opening in the "mascot department."

Church Nursery

It will be available during the worship service. If you would be able to help out a Sunday, please contact Tina Pawlick, nursery coordinator or there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board

Hospitality Table Sign Up Sheet

There is a sign up sheet to help fill the Sunday morning hospitality table with sweet treats. If you would like to help, the sheet is located in the vestibule. The treats are a welcome blessing on Sunday mornings.

Welcome New Arrival

Welcome new baby Marshall Hammonds. His parents Brent and Allison and Marshalls grandparents could not be more thrilled. Maxwell is learning to share the spotlight.

Time to star thinking Volleyball

Its time to start thinking Volleyball We will be organizing the teams beginning in May. If you are interested, please contact Nikki Beougher. We have two teams, one recreational and the other is more power volleyball. Any girls 13 or older are welcome to play.

Flower Calendar

The Flower Calendar for 2011 is hanging in the vestibule. Weekly flower cost is \$27.00.

Sinn Diaper Drive

Ongoing diaper drive for the Sinn Twins. They are in newborn size and they can be dropped off in the vestibule under the coat rack.

YWCA Clothing Drive

The Van Wert YWCA is having a clothing drive from now until May 1st. Needed are gently used women's career clothing-all sizes. Dresses, suits, dress pants, blouses, dress shoes new and unopened make up, jewelry, new panty hose. There will be baskets in the vestibule to place the donated items.

The loan closet is being created to assist women in the YMCA's transitional housing program to have appropriate clothing for job interviews and jobs. For more information contact Van Wert High School Senior English Class, 419-238-3350.



Convoy United Methodist Church
Sycamore and Main
Convoy, Ohio 45832
419-749-2383

Enter to Worship., Depart to Serve

Contemporary Service

A Contemporary Service is offered every Sunday morning at 11:11 a.m. This is held at the former Hall Lumber office downtown, located along the railroad tracks east of Main Street. It's a service filled with songs and praise. It is a casual and more relaxed Service than 9:30 service. We still offer all the same sacraments.

The Service is hosted by our praise band called "Crossroads". Members include:

Guitarist Pastor Leigh Lead Vocal Jeff Gleckler, Keyboard Laura Leigh, Drums Fred Fegley, Bass Guitar Jordan or Jon Leigh.

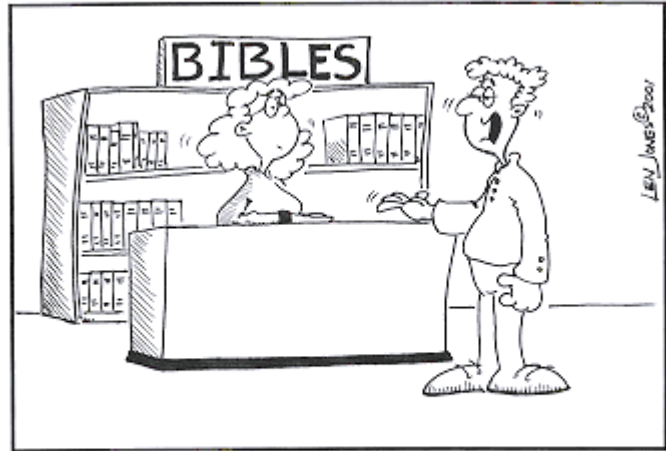
Casual dress such as jeans, T-Shirts, and ball caps are acceptable at this service. Refreshments are offered to be enjoyed throughout the service. Not on time for the beginning, not a problem. You're welcome to come in and join us whenever you get there. It's very informal. You're always welcome to come join us.

*Convoy United Methodist Church
Sycamore and Main
P.O. Box 128
Convoy, Ohio 45832*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Comic Relief

ALTAR EGO by Len Jones

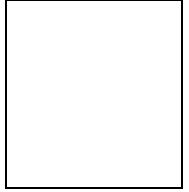


"What I really need is a translation that won't leave me feeling guilty, convicted, or in need of making some kind of decision."

Don't forget to check us out on the web at www.convoyumc.org for service streaming and more content about what's going on at Convoy United Methodist.

*Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321*

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