The Window

The Ontario United Methodist Church We Care as Christ Cares

FEBRUARY 2015



It's amazing how life can change in a split second. In the blink of an eye all the plans we've made can be made insignificant by a life-changing event. In a flash our concept of how the world works can be changed forever.

Consider the consequences of a life-threatening diagnosis. All of a sudden our priorities change, whether the diagnosis is ours or for a close family member or friend.

Think about the outcome of a serious car accident. All of a sudden, life is more precious for having been threatened.

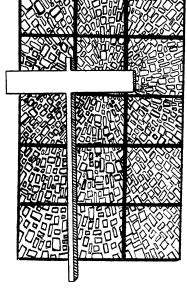
Or imagine a job you've hated suddenly being in jeopardy. All of a sudden, its problems are insignificant.

What comes to mind for me is three-fold. Our son, Rus, was in a very serious car accident some years ago and came close to death. All of a sudden my frustration with him as a teenager disappeared. A few years later, my husband, Ash, had a quadruple bypass surgery. How he squeezed the toothpaste or whether he took out the trash was forevermore totally insignificant. Vijay's cancer last year suddenly changed forever my expectation that parents die before their children.

None of us wants to have these kinds of events in order to reprioritize our lives, and I certainly don't wish them on you. But those of us with faith do change in positive ways at these times. We reevaluate how we've been living and reorganize our schedules to fit our values.

Wouldn't it be great to do that without catastrophic inspiration?

What if we used the period of Lenten discipline to do just that—to self-examine?



I invite you to a Lenten Discipline this year of a different sort. Sit down and make a list of your top

ten values. Then look at your schedule and your checking account to see whether your spending of time and money matches what you say you value. I pray that it does. But if it doesn't match as well as you'd like, then instead of giving something up for Lent, take something on. Take on the task of reinventing your routine. It's tough, but fruitful.

Lent begins this month, with Ash Wednesday worship on February 18. I pray that Easter finds you convicted that your relationship with God is your highest priority. Because, life can change in an instant.

Peanut Butter & Jelly Ministry

This seems very early in the year to think about feeding hungry children in the summer, but the time moves very quickly. For the month of February, we will be collecting tomato and chicken noodle soups, spaghetti sauce and canned beans and corn.

Karen Wagenhals has volunteered to head the PB & J program this year with the help of Joni Davis. We thank them in advance for their service.

Sweet Treats Bake Sale

The Missions Committee will hold a Sweet Treats Bake Sale on Sunday, February 15. If you are



willing to bake cookies, cupcakes, candy or other goodies for this event, please call Sue Kisling.

Our OUMC Family



Our Sympathy to ~~

The family and friends of Margie N. Shumway.

Lisa Larck and Rachel Miller and family in the death of their father and grandgather, Paul Price.

Pauline Runyon and family in the death of her husband, John (Bub) Runyon.

Esther Case and family in the death of her husband and our former pastor, Dave Case.

Joan and Ralph Beer and family in the death of her brother, Ron Danals.

Karen and Bob Wagenhals and family in the death of her cousin, Bill Byers.

Bonnie and Dave Fisher and family in the death of her cousin, Sam McClarran.

Herald and Virginia Carlson and family in the death of his nephew, Mark Carlson.

Ron and Pam, Matt and Kathy, Todd and Brianne Dille and family in the death of their uncle, David Turner.

Congratulations to ~~

Stacie McKean and Michael Walker who were married on January 10 in Crestline.

Celebration Days~~~ Blessings on your special day! Birthdays:

u tii	uuys.		
1	Rick Shaw	12	Les Leedy
2	Mildred Mandley	13	Marcy Roth
2	Janis Hoover	13	Brianne Dille
3	Sharon Mowry	15	Jeanne Flanegan
3	Bruce Engle	15	Mary Ann Stotts
4	Lester Auck	15	Dick Franta
7	Wayne Motley	16	Jim Shaum
8	Toni Smith	18	Jill Kaber
8	Tom Blaney	19	Frank DeWitt
9	Reta Kirsh	20	Mary Myers
10	Janet Bixler	22	Caitlyn Fisher
11	Larry Bixler	25	Nolen Bunker
		26	Zachary Smith

Anniversaries:

- 4 Toni and Dale Smith
- 12 Bev and Tom Bence

Leave your birthday and anniversary dates at the Welcome Center to be included in the Celebration Days.

Ontario United Methodist Church

419-529-4345 ontarioumc.org ontarioumc@neo.rr.com

Thank You~~~

Two boxes of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves and socks from our Mitten Tree were given to Harmony House and the Salvation Army After School Program. The Missions Committee thanks everyone who gave items to help keep children warm this winter.

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the Winter Festival.

—Pat Storms

Short Term Choir Opportunity

Would you like to join the choir for a short-term singing opportunity? Join in five rehearsals on Wednesdays (7:00 to 8:15 pm) starting February 25 to participate in the special choir presentation on Palm Sunday, March 29, as well as Easter music. If you have any questions, contact Bonnie Fisher at 419-462-0334 or hopecabins@gmail.com.

Faith Ringers OUMC bell choir will resume 2015 rehearsals on Wednesday, February 25 at 6:00 pm.

Dinner at Point of Grace Church

The Missions Committee has committed our church to fund and help serve a meal at Point of Grace Church (formally St. Luke's) each quarter of 2015. The first one is March 7.

We will need volunteers who can be at Point of Grace that day at 4:00 to help prepare and serve the meal, and we're also asking for donations of brownies. Watch for a sign-up sheet.

This year, there is also an opportunity to provide entertainment before and during the meal. Do you have a group that would like to sing? This is your chance. Please contact Pat Bell at 419-589-2198.

A Colorful Lesson
We could learn a lot from crayons:
some are sharp,
some are pretty,
some are dull,
some have weird names,
and all are different colors...

but they all exist very nicely together in the same box.
-Robert Fulghum

ONTARIO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2015 LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

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FEBRUARY 2015

	"People jud	dge by outward a	ppearance, but t	he Lord looks at	the heart." 1	Samuel 16:7			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
1 9:20am Godward	2 Groundhog Day 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Missions, Church & Society and Worship Planning meetings	3 Groundhog Day 11:00am All-Staff Mtg 3:30pm Bible Study 5:30pm Fell Meal 6:15pm Prayer Cir 6:45pm Bible Study	4 12:00pm Silvers Meal 7:00pm Choir	5 11:00am Bulletin items due 7:00pm Wolf Den	5:00pm Swim Team Meal	7			
8 9:20am Godward	9	3:30pm Bible Study 5:30pm Fell Meal 6:15pm Prayer Cir 6:45pm Bible Study	11 7:00pm Choir	12 11:00am Bulletin items due	5:00pm Swim Team Meal	14 Valentine's			
15 9:20am Godward Sweet Treats Bake Sale Newsletter deadline	President's Day (office closed)	17 3:30pm Bible Study 5:30pm Fell Meal 6:15pm Prayer Cir 6:45pm Bible Study	18 12:00pm Silvers Meal WEDNESDAY 7:00pm Service	19 11:00am Bulletin items due 7:00pm Scout Ldrs	20 5:00pm Swim Team Meal	21			
9:20am Godward	23	3:30pm Bible Study 5:30pm Fell Meal 6:15pm Prayer Cir 6:45pm Bible Study	25 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet 7:00pm Choir	26 11:00am Bulletin items due 7:00pm Book Club "Life Without Limits" by Nick Vugicic	27	28 Recycling Trailer here thru Sunday			
EVERY SUNDAY ~~ Grace & Eggs @ 8:30Kingdom Kids @ 9:00Adult Sunday School @ 9:15Worship @ 10:15, followed by Fellowship Time									