

# Kilbourne United Methodist Church News

*Empowered by God's Spirit, our mission is to invite everyone to join us in following Jesus, as we love, teach and serve.*

February 2016

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## *Hearts, Roses and All That Stuff*

I admit it– I have little use for Valentine's Day. As a child, my father got us candy or little things and that was sweet. As a teen, I bought my own stuffed animals because they were cute and I certainly was not going to wait around for some one to buy me one. But as an adult, I could take or leave the holiday as it is normally celebrated. This attitude tends to confuse many of my friends but luckily Felix also did not celebrate Valentine's Day. Felix and I celebrate Feb 15th– the day chocolate is 50% off in stores.

My main objection to Valentine's Day is simple. I do not need culture to tell those who love me to tell me that they love me. I object to the idea that we reduce expressions of love to be about buying chocolate and flowers one day a year. I want to be in relationships in which love is expressed every day in million ways telling me that I am loved and cared for. If Hallmark has to remind me to act like I love someone then I need to reevaluate how I love.

Now I am not asking others to cease celebrating this holiday. However, I am saying that we should express our love, caring and appreciation far more frequently than we do. This includes our spouses or committed partners but I mean all those that we love. In 1 John 4 it says "let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." As Christians, we are called to love one another. Why? Because God is love. Period.

God is calling us to be more than we are. We need to learn to be a culture that loves passionately instead of one that reduces the celebration of love to a single day. What if God had only chose to show love one day a year? As we move into Lent, we should be reminded of just how much God loves us and how often God shows it.

So don't wait for the calendar to tell you to express love. Share the love you have for others so often that Valentine's Day becomes pointless because everyone in your life already feels loved and appreciate. Live out your love of God, others, and self so that all who know you know your love. Love each other because God is love.

Pastor Beth



## Ash Wednesday Service

Lent is a very important season within Christianity as it helps us prepare our hearts and lives for God's grace and salvation. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of this season in which we seek to understand the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Ashes are used as a symbol for our sorrow for having sinned. We must recognize our own sins in order to understand what God has done for us.

Our Ash Wednesday service will be on February 10th at 7PM. Please make time to come to this important service.

### Lent

During Lent this year we will be offering a Lenten Bible Study using *Jesus: Understanding His Death and Resurrection*.

This study will be based largely on scripture, primarily from the Gospel of Mark. Each class will meet for about 1 hour. A great aspect of this study is that there is no required homework or prep. We will read the scripture together and reflect on the reading.

Classes will begin following Ash Wednesday. Classes will be available at a variety of times. Sign ups will be available in church.

### Men's Breakfast

Come and enjoy men's fellowship on Saturday February 20th at 8:00AM. This is a delicious meal and the conversation is good too!



## Comfort for Critters

Many of us have a soft spot for animals without homes. However, we know that we are not able to provide every animal a home. Yet we can do something! Comfort for Critters is a ministry that helps both animals and shelters by providing the animals blankets for their cages. The blankets are usually for dogs or cats but other animals use them too depending on the current residence of the shelter. Then when they are adopted they can take their blanket with them. Free patterns are available through the Comfort for Critters website. These can be made of fleece (no sewing needed!), crochet or knit. This is also a good way to use up all that extra yarn you may have around. Sandy Wicker has contacted the Delaware animal shelter and she will be our point person for this great ministry.

If you do not have the time or skill but do have yarn or fleece you are willing to donate, please bring it to the church.





## Potato Bar for Mission

On February 21st, following service, join with our community for fellowship and ministry support. Come enjoy a delicious potato bar and support our missions as well. It truly takes a community to do mission!

## Ushers, Liturgists and Worship Servants

We are making a change in how liturgists and ushers are signing up. For several months, most Sundays we have had no ushers sign up. In fact, liturgist is commonly the only spot signed up for.

In light of that, we are going to try a new system to sign up for helping with worship starting in March. While there will surely be some bumps in the transition, the new system should help the office and also worship.

Based off of a list of the regular volunteers and those that expressed their willingness to serve, the office will provide a 3 month list for Servants in Worship. This will be released and then we ask all to review the list within 2 weeks and confirm they are able to help with those Sundays.

Meet and Greet, and Flowers sign up will be moved to a bulletin board and all are welcomed to sign up there. Special presentations simply need to contact the office no later than the Tuesday before the Sunday they wish to share and they will be added to service.

## Ministry Wrap Up

Just a few notes about ministries that occurred in January:

- We had both youth and adults enjoy Winter Jam.
- We brought in over 640 items for our food pantry
- We helped 3 families with food
- We gave \$47 for Human Relations Sunday
- 19 members watched the movie *War Room* together
- The Cub Scouts hosted the Pinewood Derby

Thank you to all who helped plan the events and who participated.

### Interesting Facts

*According to Wycliffe International, the New Testament has been translated into over 1300 languages. More than 400 languages have the whole Bible.*

*The Adventures of Pinocchio is in 260 languages.*

# Spring Craft Show and Easter Egg Hunt

The Spring Craft show is just around the corner on March 5th. This year we are coupling it with an Easter Egg Hunt. The craft show will be from 9AM-2PM and the hunt will be at 10AM sharp! In order for this day to be a success we need the help of the whole congregation. Below are opportunities to help with this ministry:

1. Invite People! Your circle of friends includes people others may not see. Invite them to enjoy the craft show or if they have children to come for the Easter Egg Hunt. The church office has fliers or posters if you have a place to display or distribute either.
2. Volunteer that day! We need people to help in the kitchen, the church table, or the hunt. Consider if you could give just a few hours that day to either event. Sign ups will be available in church or you can email the church office.
3. Donate! Items are needed in order to make this happen. Please consider bringing any of the following. Items for the hunt are due by Feb 28. Food for the craft show should be at the church by March 3.

For the Hunt: Plastic Eggs (new or used are fine)

Candy (Fun size or individually wrapped)

Small prizes such as kites, Frisbees, balls, etc.



For the Craft Show:

Baked Goods

Donations of gently used items for church table (items not sold will be donated to another charity)

Crafts

Food for kitchen– List available at the church



**2016 GOALS** Set by the Administrative Council:

Will be announced in the upcoming months!

*Happy Anniversary*

6-Jarrett & Beth Hightower




6-John Humes  
 6-Emma Clark  
 6-Sandy Wicker  
 16-Erin Fridley  
 25-Allison Bain



### Prayers

Please remember in your prayers: Louise Ziegler, Dottie Dawson, Emily Thomas, Ann Carper, Joyce Caudill, Barney Evans, families that are grieving, our church and those needing a touch from God.

### February Calendar

Worship Weekly at 10:30AM on Sunday with Sunday School at 9:30AM

Feb 8– Trustees	7:00p	Feb 18– Missions	7:00p
Feb 10– Choir	6:30p	Feb 20– Men’s Breakfast	8:00a
Feb 10– Ash Wed Service	7:00p	Feb 21–Potato Bar	11:30a
Feb 11– Bible Study	1:00p	Feb 21– Lenten Study	6:00p
Feb 14– Lenten Study	6:00p	Feb 22– Knit It Together	6:30p
Feb 16– Finance Audit	7:00p	Feb 22– Festival Meeting	7:00p
Feb 17– Lenten Study	6:00p	Feb 24– Lenten Study	6:00p
Feb 17– Choir	7:00p	Feb 24– Choir	7:00p
Feb 18– Young @ Heart	7:00p	Feb 28– Lenten Study	6:00p

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