

Connections

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 4 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

IF IT'S NOT ONE THING...

If it's not one thing, it's another! That was one of my dad's favorite sayings when he was frustrated and living on a hard-scrabble farm in West Virginia and working a full-time job to make ends meet.



Well, it goes without saying that he was frustrated a LOT of the time!

He also used to say that if he didn't have bad luck, well, he just wouldn't have any luck a'tall - and that was pretty much the gospel truth as well. If, for instance, we were planning on spending the day building fence, say, on the back-side of the farm, you knew already that it would only be about a half day's work because it took about a half day to haul all

the materials to the site and haul them back again at the end of the day.

Note: Pastors Tim and Pat have decided that they will share their bits of wisdom alternately on the front page. Pastor Pat begins the new mode of operation in this edition. Look for Pastor Tim's thoughts here next month.

For one thing, since our property was either pretty much all straight uphill or straight downhill depending on your perspective and what you needed to do,

there were very few roads on the farm - so you'd haul the stuff as close as you could get it and then man-handle it the rest of the way. Now, I don't know about you but carrying 8' locust posts or bales of woven or barbed wire up hills and through brush thickets wasn't my idea of a good time, but it had to be done. My dad took pride in his fences. They were straight as a ramrod and bull-strong - literally.

Anyway, we'd spend 2 or 3 hours exhaustively hauling things to the work site and get things set up and ready to go, and the chain-saw wouldn't run, and this after dad had torn it down and cleaned it up the evening before, and it ran like it was brand new. So,



there was nothing for it but to tear it all back down and figure out what was wrong with it, and, like as not, whatever was wrong with it required a trip back to the barn to get a special tool or part that we didn't have with us. Or somehow the wire-stretchers would have bounced off the wagon trailer unnoticed so we'd have to spend an hour or so back-tracking the wagon until we found them.

(Continued on page 2)

DON'T FORGET!
Rise and Shine Saturday
 February 28—8:30 to
 11:30 a.m.



As part of the Walk to Jerusalem, the entire congregation is invited to participate in a Saturday morning exercise opportunity. We'll start with a light, healthy breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and continue with three activity sessions starting at 9:15 a.m. Activities will include aerobics, Pilates, karate, chair-aerobics (for those looking for a way to exercise without leaving your chair), basketball, and walking. All ages, and physical ability levels are encouraged to participate. Contact Jeni Leaird at jenileaird@gmail.com with any questions or child-care requests.

(Continued from page 1)

Now, these instances were NOT rare occurrences. They happened regularly enough that it almost felt like there was a black cloud stalled over our heads when we were working on a project of some kind. Frustrating! A less stubborn man than my father would probably have thrown in the towel and moved to town or something, but my dad loved the farm and had his own ideas about how things should be done - right, or not at all - and he just would never quit. I often heard him say, through gritted teeth, that he was just not smart enough to quit. My dad had his problems, but he never quit anything that I can ever recall - even when quitting might have seemed like the smartest thing to do.

The last time I was on the old home-place, which is rare any more, I happened to notice some of the old fence lines. The posts have given way now, no farming is done there now, and the old farm is slowly reverting to wilderness - but you can still see those perfectly straight fence-lines running up the hills. I haven't dug a post-hole in 30 years (thank you Jesus!), but I surely remember putting those fences in and the lines were just as straight as could be. If there was a rock where the fence needed to be, there was no going around it. We blasted it to kingdom-come and kept running fence. Trees, creeks and ravines were engineering challenges rather than obstacles, and in due

We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith...

1Thessalonians 1:3



course, each gave way to my dad's determination to "have a fence that was strong and straight."

My dad just didn't know when he was licked - so he wasn't.

I frequently think of this when I prepare myself for Lent - I think of my dad. Now, not that he had the

character of Jesus or anything like that; far from it, really. But they shared one trait that I admired back in the day and I still admire today: they never quit - even when wisdom told them that there were easier ways to do things or that things were just too big to accomplish.

The journey of Lent is just beginning and the starting off point is pretty easy, like a walk on flat ground, you just start walking. But, soon enough, if you're serious about the journey, the path gets a bit tougher and requires a bit of stamina on the one hand and determination on the other. And, as for the journey of Lent, the view there towards the end isn't one you tend to stare at for very long. Maybe you look away altogether. Of course, the end is a celebration. Jesus wins. The kingdom wins. Now, there, I've gone and spoiled it for you! Sorry - I got carried away.

The journey of Lent, for me at least, always has a cross right in the middle of the way. The cross reminds me of some of those engineering challenges we faced back on the farm when building

those fences. It reminds me of the very many times I said to Dad, "Let's just go around this problem." And, he'd say something like, "You can't go around problems. You can lick 'em if you just don't give up." I never really understood that - until I heard Jesus say the same thing when He was tempted to take the easy way 'round: "Not as I choose, but as YOU choose." (Matthew 26:39)

I guess Jesus' dad had Him building fences in His day as well. When Jesus faced that cross, He was tempted to go around it, but His Father told Him the same thing mine told me: "You can't go around THIS problem. You can lick it if you just don't give up." And, He did. I need to hear about that kind of character. I need to see that kind of courage.

I don't LIKE Passion Week (but I surely LOVE Easter!), and I'd say most of us don't because it's somber, it's frightening and it's painful to think about but I need to see, again, how Jesus stood up to His cross because I know I have one in front of me (Mark 8:34) and I can't go around it...

Pastor Pat

DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!



If your family participated in having your picture taken for the directory, you have a reserved copy with your family's name on it in the Welcome Center. Please stop by to pick up your reserved copy today and save the office the cost of mailing yours!

THREE DATES LEFT FOR 2010 LUM MEALS.

Claim One Now!

St. Andrew has committed to provide meals in 2009-10 to the Lafayette Urban Ministry's homeless shelter. We have the following dates remaining:

- Sunday, **March 14**
- Sunday, **April 11**
- Sunday, **May 9**



**SERVING MEALS
TO THE HOMELESS**

Any group within the church—a Sunday school class, a couple, a youth group, a musical group, or a collection of friends—can

participate. LUM requests meals of soup to feed 50 (supplying crackers, too, is okay, as is providing non-caffeinated drinks). For more details or to claim one of these dates, contact Lisa Tally at 463-4355/lisat@purdue.edu.

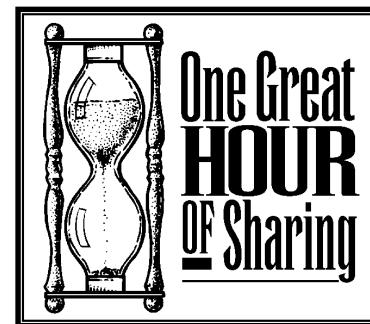
MEN CLAIM THEIR MINISTRY

The men of St. Andrew are planning to meet on March 13 at 9:00 a.m. at the church. They will be announcing their leadership group and also seeking input from those attending on tasks at church and in our community in which the Men's Group can be involved. In essence, it will be a brainstorming session. Please come and be a part of this new fellowship.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING MARCH 14

Today, what is known throughout the United Methodist Church as UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), is the remarkable agency of our church which had its origin 70 years ago at a meeting of the General Conference of the Methodist Church. There, retired Bishop Herbert Welch, in view of the horrific violence of World War II, called for the formation of an agency to respond to the vast needs of human suffering worldwide and to act as a "voice of conscience among Methodists." That was the beginning of UMCOR.



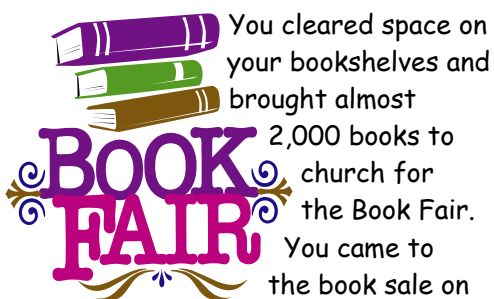
Throughout the United Methodist Church once each year "The One Great Hour of Sharing" (OGHS) is celebrated to focus on the ministry of UMCOR. This special hour is absolutely essential to the United Methodist Committee on Relief in carrying out its mission to alleviate human suffering throughout the world—at home and abroad. Gifts to this offering underwrite UMCOR's "cost of doing business." That helps UMCOR keep its promise that 100% of every other gift you make to a specific UMCOR project can be spent on that project, not on administrative costs.

UMCOR honors cultural differences, delivering aid to people without regard to race, religion, politics or gender. We seek input from local communities in identifying needs. All people have dignity and worth. The most essential partner in UMCOR's work is the beneficiary, the ultimate end-user of our service. UMCOR always works with partners, usually in local settings. Civic organizations, faith communities, school leaders and other local resources are great assets to sustainable recovery and development, particularly after massive traumatic events.

March 14 is the designated date for this year's One Great Hour of Sharing, the major UMCOR offering opportunity during the year. Please join other Christians following in the footsteps of those who have given more than \$600 million in the past 70 years to One Great Hour. Make a "sacrificial offering" to help those who are hungry, poor, refugees and displaced, or victims of war, earthquakes and other disasters.

VERY SUCCESSFUL LUM BOOK FAIR!

Thank You!



You cleared space on your bookshelves and brought almost 2,000 books to church for the Book Fair. You came to the book sale on Sunday; you took new books home for your winter reading enjoyment; and you donated to the St. Andrew/Lafayette Urban Ministry Partnership for children and families in need in our community. In fact, you donated more than **\$1,300 for LUM**. By Monday afternoon, all of the books not taken home by you were packed up and on their way to the Tippecanoe County Public Library for their next book sale. Thank you. This was truly a win-win project.



THANKS FROM THE BLOMS

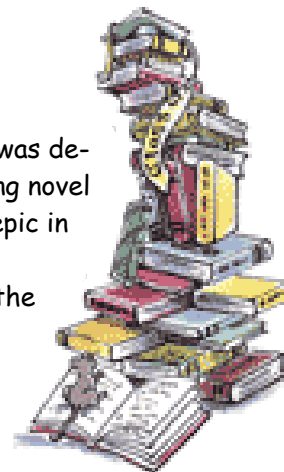
Thank you to everyone for your thoughts, prayers and cards at the time of my father's death. We appreciate your thoughtfulness! We ask for continued prayers for my mother, Carolyn Haig, as she mourns and learns to live without her partner of almost 60 years.

Wayne and Susie Blom

ECHOES OF THE GOSPEL

St Andrew Book Group
Sunday, March 7, 6-7:30 p.m.

Panther in the Sky, by James Alexander Thom was described by the Indianapolis Star as "A spellbinding novel about the life of Tecumseh...The book is almost epic in its scope...Thom has carefully researched his facts. He has the care of a historian to go with the skills of the seasoned novelist." The St. Andrew Book Group will be talking about *Panther in the Sky* on Sunday, March 7, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Adult I at church.



Please join us. We are an informal group with coffee and snacks...it is a good place to relax, while sharing ideas. We named ourselves "Echoes of the Gospel" because we talk about books applying the lens of our faith and our understanding of the lessons we learn from the Bible. You can just "drop in" when you have the time. Some read every book and come to every session (we have six to eight meetings each year), and others attend just when the chosen book is of special interest. You are always welcome to enjoy the conversations whether you have read the book or not. This is a good way to get to know others at St. Andrew.

NEW CHURCH STAFF POSITION

A NEW YEAR & NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Please pray with us that God will raise up and bring to us the right person to take our CrossRoads ministry to where God wants it to be.

We are currently in the process of looking for a Director of Programs for our CrossRoads youth and young adult ministry. This is a newly created position, and it is a part-time (20 hrs. per week) opening for an individual to step in and work under the supervision of Pastor Sleeth, who will be shifting responsibilities within our congregation as Associate Pastor. If you love Christ and love working with youth and young adults (or know someone you think would be ideal for this position), call the church office to have a job description sent to you as soon as possible.

If you are interested in this position, **please bring your resume and a cover letter to the church office as soon as possible.** All applications must be in the office by **March 1.**



Lenten Worship and Study

Contemplative Bible Study

February 21-March 21, 10 a.m.
each Sunday at the church



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday

Triumphant Entry—*Purduettes*
worship with St. Andrew
Services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

Labyrinth available from
5-8:00 p.m. with blessed
communion elements available
for those who wish to partake.

To close the evening, there
will be communion liturgy and
communion served at 8:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

12-3:00 p.m. the Labyrinth will
be in the Great Room and open
for those who wish to come and
again from 6:00 until 7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. will be the
Good Friday service open to
the community.

Easter Breakfast

Continental style from
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Easter Celebration Services

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Note that there will be
THREE services
at special times on
Easter Sunday only.

Easter Sunday School

Special time—9:30 a.m.

THREE SERVICES ON EASTER

In order to accommodate those who
come on Easter morning, St. Andrew
will have three morning worship
services, all at special times. Remember to mark your calendars so that
you won't miss out on a thing. The services will be at 8:00, 9:30 and
11:00 a.m. All services will feature special music and instrumentation
with communion at the 11:00 a.m. service. These special times will be on
Easter Sunday only.



THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON

The Know and Grow class has embarked on a 6-week study of the
parable of the Prodigal Son. The class will discuss the various themes
of the parable: our freedom to choose, rejection and leaving "home",
searching for love and significance where they cannot be found,
loneliness, resentment, jealousy, anger, vengefulness, homecoming,
affirmation, and reconciliation. The underlying (overriding) theme is
God's immeasurable love for his children just as they are. The study
is organized as follows:

- February 28 - The Younger Son Returns
- March 7 - The Elder Son Leaves
- March 14 - The Elder Son Returns
- March 21 - The Father Throws a Celebration
- March 28 - Becoming Like the Father

The study is based on Henri J.M. Nouwen's book "The Return of the
Prodigal Son". Reading the book is, however, not a requirement for
participation in the class. The information from the book required for
class discussion will be summarized and provided in class each Sunday.
Come join us in this 6-week study in Adult 1 at 10:00 a.m.

CENTER STAGE MEETS THIS SUNDAY

This is just a reminder that Center Stage is
serving the community meal at Trinity UM
Church this Sunday, February 28. If you have
volunteered to bring food and/or to help, please
be at the church by 11:45 so things can get set
up for the noon start.



In addition, be sure to keep March 21 on your
calendars for our 12:30 p.m. pitch-in luncheon at Larry and Julie
Hoffman's, 57 W 650 N, West Lafayette. More about that later...

GALACTIC BLAST COMING

There is still snow on the ground, but Vacation Bible School planning is already under way. Mark your calendars now for a week of fun from June 14-18. Kids ages 3 through 4th grade will surely enjoy Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God. 5th graders will participate in their own special BreakAway experience. Look for more information coming in the months ahead.



Last year, a record number of children attended St. Andrew's VBS. With record numbers of kids comes a need for many volunteers. We couldn't make it happen without your help and support. If you can spare a day (or five) during VBS week, I guarantee that you'll have a great time. Please contact Melissa Martin (melissa@andrew-umc.org) or Cindy Nycz (cindy@nyczideas.com) if you would like to find out more or sign up to help.



THE LUNATOS ARE MOVING



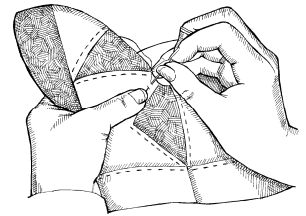
As of March 3, our address will change to 4217 Greenthread Drive, Zionsville, IN 46077. Our email will stay the same, lunatoke@yahoo.com, and we will keep Kim's cell phone for the time being—1-765-404-8046. Tony's job

with Eli Lilly moved to Indianapolis on January 1 when the Tippecanoe Labs site was sold. We will greatly miss St. Andrew. We became parents while attending St. Andrew and have seen our daughters grow and flourish in the love they are able to witness here. It is our hopeful prayer that if you are southbound on I-65 and feel like heading about 5 miles off the beaten path, that you'll find yourself on our doorstep. There is an open invitation...with or without notice...pit stops or a good long visit!

Tony, Kim, Jansing & Jaelin Lunato

QUILTS FOR FAMILY PROMISE

Eleven quilt tops were pieced at the Quilts for Family Promise workshop on February 20. Thanks go to Phyllis Murrell, Jeanne Dano, Ellen Byers, Jan Coleman, Mary Gray, Linda Moriarty, Marilyn Korn, Beulah Cole, Tom Cole (he's a fantastic cutter), Sue Goecker, and Pat Skifstad. We had lots of fun and good fellowship time working together. Echoes of "we need to set up quilt workshops on a regular basis" were heard throughout the day. Thanks again for all your "hard" work.



HUMOR TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY—SAVE OUR SIBLINGS

A third-grade Sunday school teacher was giving a Bible lesson on the commandment, honor thy father and thy mother.

"Now, does anyone know a commandment for brothers and sisters?"

One sharp girl raised her hand and said, "'Thou shalt not kill.'"

—Jack Seberry, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Christian Reader, "Lite Fare."



March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Contemplative Bible Reading 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 12:00 PM Comm Meal-Center Stage 4:00 PM CR Leaders' Book Study 6:00 PM Alpha & Omegas 6:00 PM C.I.A. Youth Group 6:00 PM T.O.M. Youth Group	1 5:30 PM Disciple I 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop Comm. Mtg. 7:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Staff/Parish meeting	2 10:00 AM Traditional Worship Planning Team 11:00 AM Staff meeting 12:30 PM Contemporary Worship Planning 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM CrossRoads Leaders' Gathering 7:00 PM Tutoring	3	4 6:30 PM Disciple II 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	5 Toby Mac & Skillet Concert World Day of Prayer 9:00 AM Oasis Bible Study	6 5:00 PM Soul Train
7 8:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Contemplative Bible Reading 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 4:00 PM CR Leaders' Book Study 6:00 PM C.I.A. Youth Group 6:00 PM T.O.M. Youth Group	8 5:30 PM Disciple I 7:00 PM CareNotes 7:00 PM Education Work Area 7:00 PM Trustees meeting	9 11:00 AM Staff meeting 12:00 PM Traditional Worship Planning Team 12:30 PM Contemporary Worship Planning 5:45 PM Patrol Leader's Conference meeting 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Finance meeting 7:00 PM Tutoring 7:00 PM UMWomen	10 7:30 PM Community Ministries	11 Newsletter Published 6:30 PM Disciple II 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12 9:00 AM Oasis Bible Study 6:00 PM Scrapbook Workshop	13
14 Daylight-Saving Time Begins 8:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Screening 10:00 AM Contemplative Bible Reading 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 12:00 PM Blood Pressure Screening 4:00 PM CR Leaders' Book Study 6:00 PM C.I.A. Youth Group 6:00 PM T.O.M. Youth Group	15 5:30 PM Disciple I	16 10:00 AM Traditional Worship Planning Team 11:00 AM Staff meeting 12:30 PM Contemporary Worship Planning 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Tutoring	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 6:30 PM Disciple II 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	19 9:00 AM Oasis Bible Study 5:00 PM Gideons meeting	20 First Day of Spring 8:00 AM Gideons meeting
21 8:45 AM Traditional Worship 9:00 AM Blood Drive 10:00 AM Contemplative Bible Reading 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 4:00 PM CR Leaders' Book Study 6:00 PM C.I.A. Youth Group 6:00 PM T.O.M. Youth Group	22 5:30 PM Disciple I	23 10:00 AM Traditional Worship Planning Team 11:00 AM Staff meeting 12:30 PM Contemporary Worship Planning 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Tutoring	24 7:00 AM Kitchen Cabinet	25 Newsletter Published 6:30 PM Disciple II 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	26 9:00 AM Oasis Bible Study	27
28 Palm Sunday 8:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 4:00 PM CR Leaders' Book Study 6:00 PM Alpha & Omegas 6:00 PM C.I.A. Youth Group 6:00 PM T.O.M. Youth Group	29 5:30 PM Disciple I	30 10:00 AM Traditional Worship Planning Team 11:00 AM Staff meeting 12:30 PM Contemporary Worship Planning 6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Tutoring 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	31	<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px;"> 1 Maundy Thursday </div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px;"> 2 Good Friday </div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px;"> 3 </div>		

St. Andrew Connections

St. Andrew United Methodist Church
4703 N. 50 W.
West Lafayette, IN 47906
Friday, February 26, 2010

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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ST. ANDREW CONNECTIONS

St. Andrew UMC
Phone: 497-7755
Traditional Worship: Sunday 8:45 a.m.
Contemporary Worship: Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Childcare provided at all times

You can continue to access our web page at <http://andrew-umc.org>

Soul Train!!
March 6—6-10:00 p.m.
at the church
Don't Miss It!!



Staff

Pastor:	Tim Burchill
CrossRoads Pastor:	Pat Sleeth
Administrative Secretary:	Donna Biehl
Financial/Office Asst:	Tricia Sembroski
Dir. of Children's Ministry:	Melissa Martin
Dir. of Music Ministry:	Dave Evans
Organist/Pianist:	LuAnn Boggess
Asst. Organist/Pianist:	Lisa Tally
Chancel Choir Director	Ben Waltz
Dir. Of InTouch Ministry	Monica Arrowsmith
Coordinator InTouch Ministry	Laurie Klenosky
Joyful Sound Director:	Jeni Leaird
Caretaker:	Linda Hamilton
Nursery Coordinator	Kathy Rogers

E-Mail Addresses

tim@andrew-umc.org
pat@andrew-umc.org
donna@andrew-umc.org
tricia@andrew-umc.org
melissa@andrew-umc.org
dave@andrew-umc.org
luann@andrew-umc.org
lisa@andrew-umc.org
ben@andrew-umc.org
monica@andrew-umc.org
laurie@andrew-umc.org
jeni@andrew-umc.org
linda@andrew-umc.org
kathy@andrew-umc.org