
The Open Door

Volume 6, Issue 2, February 2009

From the Pastor

In a sermon several weeks ago, I mentioned meditating on the gospel story of the lame man whose friends couldn't get him inside the door into the room where Jesus was and, instead, took him onto the roof, created a new entrance, lowered him to Jesus, there to receive forgiveness and healing. I likened the lame man's experience to mine -- the need I have for friends who can help bring me into the healing aura of the divine presence. You are those friends, my friends! You have done that for me in such powerful ways -- the healing service with laying on of hands last Sunday, encircled as I was by so many family, friends, church members, loved ones; the cross I now wear blessed by the youth and advisors who prayed for me during the Resurrection weekend; your own rituals and gestures of prayer and remembrance. And there are others in our community, too, who suffer or who face an uncertain future, who have felt the prayers of God's people in their own hour of need. Please, believe that the prayers of God's children -- your prayers -- can lighten the load and help each of us find a way through the darkness.

From the outset of my diagnosis with Type C Thyoma or cancer of the Thymus, my medical oncologists at Vanderbilt University Hospital and the Thompson Cancer Survival Center in Oak Ridge have diligently sought a cure for this rare, malignant cancer that has now begun to metastasize to various parts of my body. Through an amazingly delicate but successful procedure, I benefited from a throat surgery that enabled my vocal cords to recapture much of their sound-making quality that I feared had been permanently lost; through several chemotherapies and a bunch of radiation treatments, medical expertise has slowed the cancer's progress and given me the gift of many days. Further chemo and radiation therapies will likely be of a palliative, rather than curative, nature.

If my blood counts reach certain levels, I may qualify for a Phase One Clinical Trial at Vanderbilt. If that happens, medicines that have successfully been used to treat lab animals would be administered to me to help determine their human effectiveness. There

are still yet many unanswered questions if I should qualify for this clinical trial. And if this happens, I may need to call on various ones for transportation or other kinds of assistance.

I truly don't know what tomorrow holds, nor can I pretend to know the divine desire for my life and ministry, but I do covet assurance that you're in prayerful solidarity with me, and with that, a hopeful sense that we are never alone because of all we share as members together of Christian community.

I write all of this fully aware, just across the street, of the near completion of a dream and a project we've been praying for, planning, working on, and contributing to for so many months

and years it is so close that I can almost taste the food from the first church supper, hear the doxology being sung, feel the joy and laughter of friends being reunited, sense the release and blessing of a peace surpassing all understanding. Before too much longer

I would be the first to admit that it's sometimes hard to fathom the Almighty's mysterious ways in our midst; faith means to trust even when we don't have all the answers -- sometimes not even partial answers. But we do have one another, and we do have the power of Christian community and the hope that there will always be an overflowing measure of grace and mercy to sustain us and to carry us through the day and into the night.

Grace & Peace

Marc Sherrod, Minister

If it's time for Fat Tuesday, then Lent must be just around the corner!!

Believe it or not, February 25 is Ash Wednesday, the traditional date marking the beginning of the season of Lent, our 40 day preparatory period as we journey towards Holy Week, Good Friday, and the culmination of our faith, Easter Sunday! We're planning some special Lenten studies on Wednesday nights that will involve both KUMC and Bethel, so please stay tuned for details!



FROM THE PARISH NURSE

Aside from the inauguration, a major news story has been the salmonella outbreak caused by the peanut products traced back to Peanut Corp. in Blakely, Georgia. Tragically, the seventh person died this week from this freak event. Salmonella is more often associated with poultry products including eggs, than in peanut butter and plant products. The strain of salmonella involved has been identified as *Salmonella Typhimurium*, the most common of the more than 2,500 types of salmonella bacteria in the United States. According to www.msn.com "Health & Fitness" the "recalled products range from cookie dough to candy and nutrition bars and also dog biscuits." The symptoms of salmonella are fever, diarrhea, cramping, and sometimes vomiting. These symptoms occur 12-24 hours after ingesting the contaminated food. Victims should seek medical help immediately as dehydration causes electrolyte imbalance.

Jars of peanut butter bought in grocery stores are fine. "Hershey, Kraft Foods and Girl Scouts USA are telling consumers their foods are not affected by the salmonella scare", reports the *New York Daily News* on Friday. If you would like to check to see if a product has been recalled there is an internet site to go to:

www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/peanutbutterrecall/

As always, to your health.....Deb

PARISH LIFE

There was a Prayer Vigil for Reverend Sherrod on Friday and Saturday, January 23rd and 24th with a full slate of Bethel and friends signing up for around the clock prayers for Marc. Please keep the Sherrod family in your prayers.

Fun Luncheon in February – Marge and Dick Hettrick have made this Valentine Luncheon a Bethel tradition. Lunch will be at 12 noon, Tuesday, February 10 in the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Bring a covered dish, a friend, and plan to enjoy the day.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The CE Committee, along with a little help from our youth and Methodist friends, will be hosting the annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 24th. We're hoping, hoping, hoping, that our building will be finished and we can host this event in our brand new kitchen and fellowship hall! The fun will start at 6 p.m. with pancakes and more pancakes, followed by crafts and a devotion. Mark your calendars now, and stay tuned for further updates!

Children's Choir resumes January 25th at 8:30 in the annex

WORSHIP

The season of Lent begins with an Ash Wednesday Service on February 25: 6:30 at Bethel.

MISSION OUTREACH

FEBRUARY MISSION OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- 2/1 Souper Bowl Offering — coordinated by the Bethel/KUMC youth Sunday morning worship
- 2/12 MO Committee Meeting — Joe Coen 7:00 pm at KUMC Annex
- 2/13 Angel Food February orders due to United Way — Jane Walsh
- 2/21 Angel Food distribution for February — Jane Walsh

CENTS-ABILITY NEWS:

Sometimes, Bethel's contributions to presbytery- or denomination-wide benevolences come nearly full circle, with that benevolence contributing in some way to a local agency. Such is the case with our participation in the PCUSA's Cents-Ability (formerly 2 cents-a-meal) program. In January, one of our favorite causes, Roane County Cooperative Ministries (RCCM), received a \$1000 check from the Presbytery of East Tennessee's Hunger Program (PETHP) that is funded thru Cents-Ability. RCCM will use the money this spring to fund their program of enabling over forty Roane County low-income families to obtain seeds, plants, and fertilizer to grow food in their own gardens. PETHP funds also recently flowed to the food pantry at Sunset Gap Community Center in Cosby and to other agencies in Lenoir City, Sweetwater, Oneida, Madisonville, Deer Lodge, La Follette, and Knoxville.

SPRING MISSION TRIP 2009

The Presbyterian Disaster Response Network is in the planning stages of a *spring mission trip*. Both men and women over the age of 18 are invited to participate. For those of you who went on the Biloxi trip you might remember Mr. Joe Fielden, Joe will be returning with us this Spring, so I look forward to his expertise in the construction field.

Thanks, *Debbie Hyder 376-6340*

WE GET LETTERS...

A note from Brenda Strickling:

To those who attended our Fellowship Supper January 21st and were inquiring about the salad I made — you may find it in the Bethel Always cookbook, page 55, Alberta Salad. It was submitted by Edwina Case Davis, Glasgow, KY. Thanks for the compliments!

YOUTH NEWS

BETHEL & KUMC YOUTH

Sunday School 9:30-10:15

February 1

Souper Bowl

5:00 ~ Youth Planning Team

6:00 ~ Youth begin new study "Way To Live"

February 8

2:00-7:00 ~ Service Project at Camp John Knox

February 15

Summit Registration Due

6:00 ~ Youth "Way To Live"

February 22

6:00 ~ Game Night

Hannah Sherrod, a senior at Maryville College, is now serving an internship in Youth Ministry with KUMC and Bethel. Hannah and Regina Little will be working with adult and student leaders in planning our youth program. Also assisting are Rob Kring and Melanie Sherrod. Welcome aboard, Hannah!



On Sunday, **FEBRUARY 1** our youth join tens of thousands of other youth around the country to demonstrate

God's love by loving our neighbors through a different kind of bowl... the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. We will hold soup pots at church doors today to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. In 2008, over 14,000 groups participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring, generating over \$10 million. Our church will donate our entire Souper Bowl collection to Hands of Mercy. **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTED.**

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS:

The Gift of Caring is a Girl Scout program to deliver cookies you purchase to those who could use a little cheer. Troop 846 will deliver your cookies to residents of Jamestowne and Wellington in March. Please see Julie Coen for Lemon Chalets, Trefoils, Do-si-dos, Samoas, Dulce De Leches, Chocolate Chips, Tagalongs, or Thin Mints for \$3.50 per box. Proceeds will go toward an environmental field trip and a new window design for Hands of Mercy food bank carried out by the girls.

HEALTH FAIR at Luminary United Methodist Church, 3401 River Road on **February 16, 2009** from **8 am till Noon**. Free Health Screening with refreshments provided by the church.

Bethel and KUMC congregations are invited to

A NIGHT OF ELEGANCE

February 13 at 6:00pm in KUMC Fellowship Hall

Candlelight meal prepared by Chef Rusty Ross
Sponsored and Served by BETHEL & KUMC YOUTH

Panzanella Salad

Grilled Chicken Breast w/sun-dried tomatoes in white wine lemon-butter sauce

Grilled Vegetables

Pasta with /Marinara Sauce

Dessert and Drinks

Ticket \$20 ~ Available after Sunday Services or in the church office

THANKS

For those of you who rang bells during the Holiday Season for Salvation Army, there will be an appreciation dinner on **Thursday, February 5, 2009 , 6:00 PM** at Rescue Squad Building.

IN COMING MONTHS:

Get Involved???

And even make a commitment???. To be honest, I didn't want any part of the Stephen Ministry. It deals with all the hard stuff—people in pain, illness, grief, divorce, bankruptcy or any other type of catastrophic circumstance life has to offer. First of all, I didn't feel qualified to handle those kinds of situations and secondly, anyone who knows my personality wouldn't exactly call me nurturing. My biggest problem was that I loved to talk more than listen. And then an associate of my church in St. Louis asked me to go to training and nervously, I said yes. I trusted HER relationship with God. "I did it afraid", as Joyce Meyer says. Twelve years ago, I made a decision that has helped me, my family, friends, and strangers to have a better life by experiencing more of the Love of God. Listening is not so hard after all. If YOU have any questions about Stephen Ministry, call me, Holley Lopater, at 376-6989. Training starts Feb.10, 7:00-9:30. (Note: you can also call *Sue Lynn Johnson* at 376-6337 or *Pat Harvey* at 376-4767.)

As of 1/27/09, there are 13 persons who are applying to be Stephen Ministers: 8 women and 5 men. Three of the class members are members of Bethel Presbyterian Church and 10 are KUMC members. There is still room for at least one more man for the training class as well as more women. If you think God is calling you to this ministry, please give one of us a call.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Madge Benfield from
Brenda G. Loyd

In memory of Joyce Law from
Vernon Law

In Memory of Bruce Murr from
Jerry and Jennie Morris
Dick Evans and Celia Simon
Frank and Marilyn Harris
Chris Badger

In memory of Gene and Katy Banker from
John and Nancy Banker

In honor of Doris Barber from
Jerry and Jennie Morris

In honor of Justus Baird and Betty Baird
Brown from
Deborah Baird

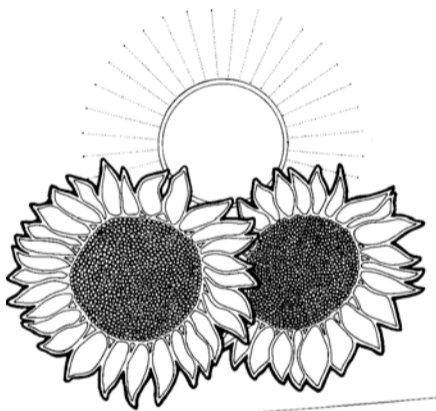
**ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP
(GREEN
TEAM)**

By Jane B. Walsh

People have been asking about the recycling program mentioned last month so I am resubmitting this information. Phil and I

are very pleased with the way the program works. Only a small amount of recycling material builds up over a period of two weeks. and the two small portable containers are easily stored.

This is an excellent way to reduce landfill material, help the environment and Michael Dunn Center all at the same time. Melanie tells me there are now 100+ businesses and homes in Roane County enjoying curbside pickup service. Michael Dunn Center will furnish two containers for recycled newspapers, unwanted mail, cardboard, plastics, aluminum cans and tin cans. There is a small monthly fee/donation for this service. Michael Dunn also benefits from sale of the recycled materials. If you are interested in becoming part of this program, contact Melanie Harmon (376-1337, ext. 230) at the Michael Dunn Center.



**ASSISTED LIVING AND
NURSING HOMES**

*Jamestowne 851 Lawnville Road, Kingston
37763*

Nelle Griffith	Room 206
Louise Pickel	Room 209
Mac Robbins	Room 305

*Wellington Place 1098 Bradford Way, Kingston
37763*

Joan Pemberton	Room 306B
Jan Parker	Room 107

*Baptist Healthcare 700 Williams Ferry Rd 45
Lenoir City 37771*

Evelyn Waldrup	Room 42A
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*The Bridge at Rockwood 5580 Roane State Hwy
Rockwood 37854*

Roberta Cash	Room 201B
Margaret True	Room 212B
Gene Pierce	Room 209

*Harriman Healthcare 240 Hannah Rd Harri-
man 37748*

Ruby Hunter	Room 305A
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*NHC Oak Ridge 300 Laboratory Rd Oak Ridge
37830*

Wanda Carter	Room 212A
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*Brakebill Nursing 5837 Lyons View Pk Knox-
ville 37919*

Anne Smith	Room 217
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*Golden Living Center Windwood 220 Longmire
Rd Clinton 37716-7338*

Doris Barber	Room 220
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AT HOME

Dot and Al Davis, Fern Stackpole, Danny Skinner, Molly Cooper, Glenda True Everett, Betty Baird Brown, Lucy Webb, Mary Lee McGill.

February 2009

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Communion Sunday Souper Bowl Collection				Appreciation Dinner/ Salvation Army Bellringers 6:00	Roane Choral Soc. Concert	Roane Choral Soc. Concert
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Youth Service Proj. @ Camp John Knox		Fun Luncheon 12:00 noon Parish Life 6:00 Stephen's Ministry Tng. Begins		Mission Out- reach Comm. 7:00	Angel Food Orders due to United Way "A Night of Ele- gance" dinner @6:00	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Youth Summit Registration Due	Health Fair @ Luminary UMC 8 a.m.-noon CE Comm. 5:00 S&F 6:00		Property & Personnel 5:30			Angel Food Distribution
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Youth: Game Night		Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper 6:00	Ash Wednesday Service 6:30		Book Discussion Group 1:30	

EACH WEEK:

Seniorize Mon/Wed/Fri
9-10 a.m.
Children's Choir
Rehearsal 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Bell Choir Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Wed.
Choir Rehearsal 7:00
p.m. Wed.
Spanish Class: Mon. 6
p.m. @ Kingston Library;
Wed. 7 p.m. @ KUMC

February Birthdays

4 Bonnie Anderson
Mark Banker
5 Karen Miller
Jon Rybka
Elmer Shesler
6 Anne Smith
8 Brenda Strickling
15 Kathy Pierce
17 Mary B. Hines
18 Sara Cantrell
Sarah Dungan
19 Melanie Sherrod
23 Phil Walsh
24 Karen Schall
27 Jennifer Choate
Deb Hyder

Prayer Reminders

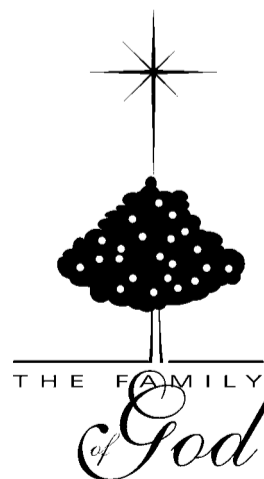
The members and regularly attending friends of Bethel are assigned to elder care groups. Each month, we publish the list of one or more elder care groups in the newsletter for your prayers. The elder's name and phone at the top of the list are listed as a reminder of their role in nurturing and supporting those who belong to Bethel. You should feel free to contact your elder or the pastor if you have a particular spiritual need or other matter that needs to be brought to our attention.

MARY B. HINES (2011)

376.6956
Jim, Matt
Fletcher, Sara
Hart, Julie
Hart, Karen
Hart, Shawn
Harvey, Jerry & *Pat
Jones, Bob & Sue
Jones, Frank & Linda
McMaster, Jill
Parkinson, Doris Ann
Parkinson, John
+Rusher, Lisa
Schall, Jim & Karen
Standridge, David &
*Debbie
^+Willmarth, Phyllis
+Woodall, Don

JEREMIAH JACKS

(2011) 717.6756
Bunch, Julie
Condon, Jim & *Gisela
^Davis, Al & Dot
Hale, Pat
*Hall, Betty
^+Hutchison, Reid
Shesler, Elmer & Erma
+Simpson, Rebecca
Smith, Marci & Tim,
~Joshua
Strickling, Larry &
Brenda
+Wolfenbarger, Pamela
Wolfenbarger, Raymond
& Lucy



*non-member
^shut-in
+inactive
~baptized roll

Bethel Presbyterian Church

203 South Kentucky St.
Kingston, TN 37763

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Kingston, Tennessee

To Reach Us:

Phone: (865) 376-6340

Fax: (865) 376-6390

On the Web: www.bethelpcusa.org

Staff

Minister: Rev. Marc Sherrod, ThD

Pastor Emeritus: Dr. Richard Hettrick

Parish Associate:

Rev. Pat Harvey

Administrative Assistant: Sandra R. Tallant

Parish Nurse: Debbie Hyder

Choir Director: Laura Walker

Bell Choir Director: Chris Badger

Treasurers:

Disbursement: Linda Brown

Receipts: Larry Strickling

Nursery Worker: Linda Gerth

Custodian: John Carter

Session

2009

Carol Brown

Joe Coen

Gary Griffith

2010

Steve Jacks

Bobbie Martin

Margaret Murr

Phil Walsh

2011

Mary B Hines

Jeremiah Jacks

Jan Rybka

James Woodard

Clerk: Cathy McDowell

