

MarketPlace



The Newsletter of West Market Street United Methodist Church, Inc.

Volume R, Number 2

January 20, 2010

Greensboro, NC

Finance Committee Report

Thanks to those of you who made a special effort to complete gifts toward pledges and the Board of Trustees who released some available funds to help cover expenses related to Christian education, we have been able to meet all our commitments to local service agencies and pay in full all of our accepted apportionments to the Annual Conference and the General Church for 2009. In addition, we have also been able to pay down over \$800,000 in debt through the Capital Campaign. This is an incredible way to end what has been one of our most difficult financial years ever.

Work is continuing on the 2010 Operating Budget and contacts are being made with a number of our members who have not yet made commitments for this year. If you have not completed a Commitment Card for 2010 you are asked to please do so by the end of January so that the Finance Committee can complete its work. Currently, projections show that we are about \$34,000 short of what is needed to fully underwrite the proposed budget. If sufficient revenues are not raised then additional reductions in proposed expenses will have to be made to balance the budget. You can help ensure that the ministry plans for 2010 remain intact by pledging your financial support.

Online giving through the use of a Debit Card or electronic checks is now available. You will need to create an account through West Market Connect to access this new way of making contributions. Automatic debits can be set up to make your giving easier and more consistent.

Go Around the World in Mission

Without leaving Greensboro!

**Sunday, January 31
8:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.
Gathering Space**

- Learn about the countries in which WMSUMC is in mission
- Have an opportunity to talk with those who have been on previous mission trips to those countries.
- Indicate your interest in participating in one of the 2010 mission trips scheduled for Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Guatemala, the domestic trip through the Appalachian Service Project, or the 2011 trip to Kenya.

Bulgaria 2010 Mission Trip Information Meeting January 31 at 12:30 p.m. Conference Room

This summer an adult mission team will head to Bulgaria for a 10-day trip, further developing WMSUMC's partnership with the churches in Mizia, Vovodovo and Pleven. During the mission trip members will worship and fellowship with our Bulgarian brothers and sisters in Christ, conduct a two-day camp for children and youth, minister to children at an orphanage, work on the reconstruction of the Pleven church, knit prayer shawls and much more! To learn more about the trip please plan to attend the Information Meeting January 31 at 12:30 p.m. in the Conference Room or contact Amy Kreimer, kreimer3@bellsouth.net or 288-4913. Applications for the trip will be available at the meeting or afterwards at one of the Outreach tables.

WE! shelter volunteers are needed for registration and overnight.

If interested contact Rhiannon Kelly (rhiannon.n.kelly@gmail.com)
or sign up at one of the outreach tables.

We are in the middle of winter and have lots of nights to fill for the shelter, so everyone's support is needed!

Our Mission: *The mission of WMSUMC is to glorify God as we make, nurture and send forth disciples of Jesus Christ.*

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR . .



We began the worship year by changing things up for one Sunday, and many among our fold appreciated the experience. January 10 the three families of our congregation (8:30, 9:40 and 10:55) worshiped together for the first time in years. And feedback has been most positive.

Every remark made to me included an appreciation for the covered dish luncheon (organized by our UMW). Following are several observations from among you:

“How great it is for morale for our Sanctuary to be almost full, even with the annex door up... Though I know some people were not able to attend because of worship time changes, I was reminded of the real size of our congregation.”

“I don’t know whose idea the combined worship service was, but it was a winner. Let’s do it again sometime.”

“Thanks for a wonderful job planning the service on Sunday. It included segments of all

three of our services, and was incredibly well-done.”

“I appreciated the Wesley Covenant Service. I took it seriously, and will need to depend on God’s grace to uphold the commitments I made.”

I must say that I had some fears about changing worship, even for one Sunday. The fact was that everybody’s worship time changed (which made me concerned). And the truth is there were segments in the service that would have been foreign to every single person there. But there was an overall spirit of love and fellowship. Thanks for being a part of it with us, and for enjoying wonderful fellowship. Please read below for a completely different announcement

Dave Melton

MEAL AND A SHOW WITH THE MELTONS AND FRIENDS

On Friday and Saturday February 12 and 13, Lynne and I, our family members and some of our friends will serve you a delicious spaghetti dinner and perform love songs and show music for you in our Fellowship Hall. All of the proceeds will go toward our pledge to our capital campaign.

The evening will begin with dinner at 6:00 p.m., and will be followed with music around 6:45 p.m. Members of the performing cast will be: Dave, Lynne and Mary Katherine Melton, our daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Andrew LeJeune, and friends and colleagues: Susan Bates, Carol Johnson, Tim Lamb, Robert Matthews, Scott Nowlan and Pam Wheeler.

Tickets for the event are \$20. That’s more than is usually charged for fund-raising “meals and a show” around here. The reason is this: we’re hoping that \$15 of that can go straight to the Capital Campaign (and as you know, will be matched by our own Royce and Jane Reynolds.)

Tickets are available from our Church Office. There will be a limited number of tickets sold for each night. Please call Jeannie Shepherd or Cheryl Moore at the Church for more information (275-4587).

Gospel on Tap: The Seven Deadly Sins

Is pride your cardinal vice? Perhaps sloth, or even lust? The Gospel on Tap starts again this February with a series on the Seven Deadly Sins. This motley list of vices will be covered in four sessions beginning February 2 in The Loft at Natty Greene’s. Every Tuesday in February starting on Groundhog’s Day, we’ll meet for good food, good conversation, and good times. Our speakers this time around include: our own Kevin Brenner; Duke Divinity’s Dave Allen; the Bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference, Larry Goodpaster; and ours and the United Way’s Ann Pinto. If you’re in your 20s or 30s, come on down to Natty’s the Tuesdays of February. We gather at 6:30 p.m. The presentation begins at 7:00. Spread the word! We hope to see you there!

Help WMSUMC Host Homeless Families January 31 – February 7

Volunteer Opportunities Abound for All (including children and youth)!

As a GIHN “host congregation”, WMSUMC will provide overnight accommodations and meals for three to five families (up to 14 individuals) for one week beginning January 31. Volunteers will prepare the evening meal and share it with the families, some will stay with the families at night and transport them back to the GIHN Day Center the next morning, and others will provide support by grocery shopping for breakfast and bag lunch items or washing linens and helping to set up or take down the rooms. This will be yet another wonderful opportunity for us to demonstrate Christian hospitality and love to those in need.



Sign up in the Gathering Space or the Fellowship Hall at the Outreach Table.

WORSHIP
Sundays,
January 24 & 31
8:30 and 10:55 a.m.
Sanctuary
9:40 a.m.

Fellowship Hall
Sermon: Dave Melton

*The 11:00 A.M. Sunday
Worship Service is broadcast
over WPET 950 AM*

Wednesday Church Night

Menus
January 27

- Fried chicken
- Mac and cheese
- Black eyed peas
- Salad
- Bread
- Dessert

February 3
Soup and Salad
Dessert

Confirmation 2010 begins on Sunday, February 7

Each year Confirmation is one of the highlights of our Youth Ministry at WMSUMC. Confirmation 2010 will begin on Sunday, February 7. All 8th grade students and their friends are encouraged to participate. If you know any 8th graders, please invite them to participate and to bring their 8th grade friends as well! Let's all help to spread the word and generate some excitement about this year's Confirmation class!

Confirmation is an important rite of passage in the life of teenagers. It allows our youth to explore their faith, to ask questions in a safe environment, to learn more about our faith heritage, to discover and experience a closer relationship with Jesus Christ through spiritual practices, and to be given the opportunity to "Claim the Name" of Christian for

themselves. Confirmation will give students opportunities for deeper spiritual formation which will allow God, the Master Potter, to shape and form the clay of their lives. As we discover together how to follow Jesus, we will morph into the Masterpiece that God has created each of us to be.

Confirmation 2010 begins on Sunday, February 7. Confirmation 2010 will involve worship attendance and classroom time. Confirmands will meet for worship together in the Fellowship Hall at 9:40 a.m. and then go upstairs to the Confirmation Room in the Youth Suite (Room 403-B) and meet from 10:50 am until 12:00 noon each Sunday.

The Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for Friday, March 12, through Sunday, March 14, at Mount Shepherd Retreat

Center in Asheboro. This retreat is a vital component of the Confirmation journey. Please make every effort for your son or daughter to attend. Confirmation will conclude with a celebration in worship on Sunday, May 23.

Please sign up for Confirmation 2010 on our church website at www.wmsumc.org (click on "youth ministry") or by contacting Nancy Hamilton at nhamilton@wmsumc.org or 275-4587 vm 12.

There will be an *important information meeting for parents of Confirmation students on Sunday, February 7, from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. in room 405.* They will receive an overview of Confirmation, along with important dates and time for Q & A. A light lunch will be served.

Our Church Family

As of January 14, 2010

New Babies

Welcome to the following:

Eli Dean Gramberg, son of John and **Adrienne Sherrill Gramberg**, of Stauton, VA, born December 31, 2009. Maternal grandparents are Marian and Butch Sherrill.

Caroline Elizabeth Wall, daughter of Melisa and **David Wall**. Paternal grandparents are **Miriam and Philip Wall**.

Our Presence

Jan. 10
10:30 511
One service only

Leadership Class to Study *The Prodigal God*

On January 17, the Leadership Sunday School Class began a book study of Timothy Keller's, *The Prodigal God*. Newsweek magazine has called Keller a "C.S. Lewis for the 21st century". In *The Prodigal God* Keller uses a well-known Christian parable to reveal an unexpected message of hope and salvation.

Please visit the Leadership Class in Room 312 to take part in the study of this interesting book.

Responding to Our Community

A recent series of articles in the *Greensboro News and Record* highlighted awareness of refugees from Iraq who were living in substandard housing with no heat and resettlement resources running out. The community responded with concern and compassion, and all 10 of those families are getting the support they need, thanks in part to the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Islamic Center of the Triad, and Faith Action International, a community organization under the leadership of a member of our United Methodist clergy, Reverend Mark Sills. The articles reminded us that Greensboro has a strong history of welcoming refugees from around the world. WMSUMC's congregation has had an active role in serving as a liaison and support to new immigrants in years past, many of whom arrive here as political refugees from war-torn countries.

An upcoming monthly educational series is being offered by the Refugee Information Network of Guilford that can help us to learn more about some of our newer neighbors: *2010 Ethnicity Education Series*, Lake Townsend Room; J. Edward Kitchen Operations Center; 2602 S. Elm Eugene Street; Greensboro.

This series of informal presentations will introduce participants to some of the major refugee communities that have settled in Greensboro in recent years. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about our new neighbors from around the world. Each session is 6:30- 8:30 p.m., January 26 - Iraq; February 23 - Burma; March 30 - Vietnam; April 27 - Democratic Republic of the Congo; May 25 - Bhutan.

For more information please contact: Leilani Roughton - 553-1514 or Sarah Ivory - 617-0381.

Created By God

Fourth, fifth and sixth graders and their parents are invited to participate in a special upcoming event called "Created by God", a study of human sexuality with a Christian foundation. The event is Friday afternoon, February 5, and Saturday, February 6. Call Jane Brannock (275-4587, vm 13) for more details. To register your child contact Nancy Hamilton (275-4587, vm 12 or nhamilton@wmsumc.org).

**Opportunities for
JANUARY 24—
FEBRUARY 6**

**Leak Chapel open daily
11a.m.-2 p.m.**

- SUNDAY, JANUARY 24**
 8:00 am Laity in Prayer, 319
 8:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
 9:40 am Worship Service, FH
 9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
 10:55 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
 12:00 noon Coffee Hour Plus, GS
 12:30 pm New Member Luncheon, FH3
 5:30 pm UMYF, Coffee House
- MONDAY, JANUARY 25**
 11:00 am Friendship Club, FH3
 4:30 pm Board of Trustees, CR
 5:00 pm Visitation Team, 302D
 6:00 pm MarketBell Ringers, 316
- TUESDAY, JANUARY 26**
 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry, 415
 6:00 pm Council on Ministries, GS
- WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27**
 10:00 am Staff Meeting, CR
 4:00 pm Mission Possible Kids, 304D
 5:15 pm WCN Dinner, FH
 5:30 pm Cherub Choir, 316
 5:30 pm Joyful Noise Choir, 317
 6:30 pm WCN Program
 6:45 pm Chancel Choir, 317
 8:00 pm AA, 415
- THURSDAY, JANUARY 28**
 6:30 pm 9:40 Worship Rehearsal, FH

- SUNDAY, JANUARY 31**
 8:00 am Laity in Prayer, 319
 8:30 am Around the World in Mission, GS
 8:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
 9:40 am Worship Service, FH
 9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
 10:55 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
 12:00 noon Coffee Hour Plus, GS
 12:30 pm Bulgaria Information Meeting, CR
 5:30 pm UMYF, Coffee House

- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1**
 6:00 pm MarketBell Ringers, 316
 7:00 pm Partners in Prayer, Library

- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3**
 9:00 am Sewing Group, 109
 10:00 am Staff Meeting, CR
 4:00 pm Mission Possible Kids, 304D
 5:15 pm WCN Dinner, FH
 5:30 pm Cherub Choir, 316
 5:30 pm Joyful Noise Choir, 317
 6:30 pm WCN Program
 6:45 pm Chancel Choir, 317
 8:00 pm AA Meeting, 415

- THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4**
 6:30 pm 9:40 Worship Rehearsal, FH

- FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5**
 4:00 pm Created by God, 415

- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6**
 8:00 am Created by God, 415

CIRCLES

Tuesday, February 2
Circle #4, 7:30 p.m., 44 Kinglet Circle. Laura Dixon and Lynn Long, hosts.
Wednesday, February 3
Circle #7, 12:00 noon, Gathering Space

FEBRUARY 16 PANCAKE DAY

Save the Date

West Market Street
 United Methodist Church

302 West Market Street
 Post Office Box 870
 Greensboro, NC 27402-0870
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 www.wmsumc.org

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Lenten Meditation Services

Mark your calendars for each Tuesday of Lent, beginning February 23. A Lenten meditation service will begin at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. At 12:25 p.m., the service will be followed with a Soup and Sandwich lunch. A donation of \$3.00 will be appreciated to cover the cost of the lunch.

Worship Ministry Team Needs You

The Worship Ministry Team is like a large umbrella with many very important committees under it. There are a great number of volunteers who make up these committees and without them and their dedication, things would not happen or run smoothly each week at our church.

We need volunteers **immediately** on the COMMUNION STEWARDS TEAM. David and Stella Crutchfield are the new chairpersons and their helpers are Trudy Atkins, Bill and Libbie Ball, Frank and Mary Biggerstaff, Joan Bolling, Margie Carter, Ben and Sue Coston, Catherine Crowder, Mary Jo Elmore, Kathryn Greene, John and Kay Idol, Jim and Fray Metclafe. Communion Stewards for the 9:40 service are Lyssa Eddy, Matt and Kelly Takacs with Kay Harmon as the chairperson. You might want to talk to some of these people to learn

more about serving. If you are a new member of our church, this is a perfect place to get involved, learn more about the church and meet new people.

This group prepares the altar for Communion, prepares the bread (we order from Great Harvest) and cups/trays and chalices depending on the method of partaking of the bread and juice, and cleaning up the altar after the service. Everything is kept in the Sacristy in a very orderly way for we respect this room as sacred space. We have a very clear and detailed Communion Checklist to follow and it covers EVERYTHING.

If you are interested in joining the Communion Stewards team, please call David and Stella Crutchfield at 643-5855 or Betty Betts at 274-9046. We're waiting to hear from you!!