



Yalesville United Methodist Church

Anne Bracket, Pastor

Telephone: 269-9521

Web Page: Yalesvilleumc.org

March 2011

From the Pastor



So often we approach Lent with an attitude of what should we give up? Chocolate? Meat on Fridays? I read of a church that is encouraging people to give up alcohol during Lent. Perhaps all good things.

I have always considered Lent a good time to "take up" something. Take up something new and meaningful that will remind us that we are Jesus' disciples the way Jesus took up his cross for each one of us.

What can you "take up" this Lent?

During Lent the focus this year will be on poverty. In our worship, our fellowship, in Confirmation class, in some special events we will have the opportunity to explore the systems and the reasons for poverty in our community, and our world and how to end poverty.

Lent is a time to focus on the messages Jesus has given to us. Perhaps the most meaningful is the one that arises out of one of his last acts in the Gospel of John where he washes the feet of the disciples and commands us to do the same to others. Jesus is commanding us to serve others every way we can and to offer to others the best we have of ourselves.

As we ponder this commandment, perhaps we will come to see how poverty can truly be history.

MUSIC NOTES



Bells will be ringing for Easter! The Bell Choir will be practicing on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm starting on March 3rd. Please see Kendra if you can join us!
For the months of March and April, Adult Choir will practice on Thursdays, from 7:30-8:30pm.

Lay Leader

With the printing of this newsletter, we welcome in the New Year - 2011. A short few months ago we opened another program year and here we are nearly half way through that year.

As in the past, through our mission ministry we have made another Christmas season matter from 8 New Place Street, Yalesville, to tiny villages half a world away. There can be no doubt that we are in Christ and that Christ is in each one of us.

This fact will be very important as we experience some tough times in the months and possibly years ahead. Our nation faces very critical issues - some of which will resonant within our very walls. As I mentioned in 2009, our church is not immune from those things which affect our nation's economy.

I am sure we all consider thoughtfully and prayerfully those "things" that matter to us as we make important financial decisions in the days and weeks ahead. It will also be important to keep our eyes and ears open to events which may impact the lives of those in our midst. In sharing His love and His values; we will all be there to make a difference. In a recent appeal,

I mentioned we will be defined by those things we "CAN DO" vs. things that cannot be done. With God's blessings and the sacrifice of our membership, our 2010 apportionment payment was made. "Thanks be to God" Let it be said that everyone participated in this effort - whether it was by making an additional financial sacrifice or by devoting time to prayer that our efforts would be successful - everyone participated.

There are events planned to define and raise the budget. We hope participation will remain strong and we remain "united" not only in our struggles but also in our celebrations. We do not want anyone left on the sideline due to temporary changes in their lives. If there is an event you wish to attend but cannot because of a temporary situation - please see Pastor Anne or myself. There are always tickets available. We'd much rather have seats filled rather than empty because "no one knew".

May you all seek, find and share the Peace and Joy of our Living Christ in 2011.

In His service,

Gail Powell, Lay Leader

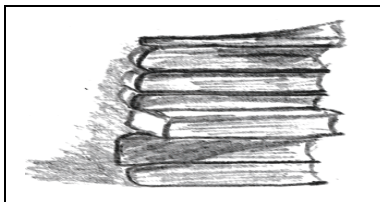
You are invited to attend the birthday celebration of Big Daddy Sugarbaker . This may be the last family gathering before he passes to the great beyond. He is one of the richest men in the world, and he is not at all well. I wonder who will be heir to his family fortune ? Who will benefit from his death ? Who can't wait any longer ?

This birthday celebration promises to be one of great excitement. There might even be a murder, or two. Could you solve the mystery? Are you up to the challenge? The church choir is going to give you the opportunity to do just that. Please put Saturday, April 9, 2011, on your calendar as the evening to come to Big Daddy's party held in the downstairs church fellowship hall. There will be a pot luck supper and a "free will" offering to provide monies for the choir director to purchase music for the choir to sing during the upcoming year. Come and enjoy the food, the fellowship, and the foolishness that only some of our more notorious church members can provide. Oh, and the choir will not only be there to serve you but also to add to the entertainment with some of Big Daddy's favorite old time music. See you at 5:30 PM on April 9th...sign-up sheets and invitations will soon be available to you after church. (A count is needed so that all may be provided for with both food and seating.)

Masters Manna

One of the items needed to help their ministry are Spanish language books for both adults and children. This includes Bibles.

The website is www.mastersmanna.org



DISCIPLE

The three Disciple Bible Study classes have passed a mile stone this month and have finished the Old Testament and are now reading the Gospels! We have had a great time and despite snow and a few other obstacles have continued faithfully to meet each week. We even had a wonderful Sunday afternoon when all three classes met and had Disciple Jeopardy! See pictures on the kiosk!

Needed Food Pantry items are:

March -Cereal

April- Tomato Sauce and Pasta



CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Confirmation Class is meeting regularly, please keep them in your prayers as they learn and grow together in their love and knowledge of Christ and His Church. They are: Braden Disbrow, Alayna Lausier, Amanda Staski, Mark Sumner, Jamie Chace, Dianna Bloom, Sarah Heslin.

SUNDAY MARCH 27TH

UMARMY CHILI
COOKOFF!



nursery news

The nursery room has been bustling with new families and new little faces. We are excited for lots more fun and play in the months ahead.

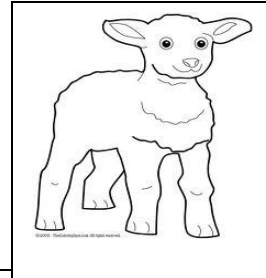
We will be redoing the bulletin board signup, which will give people many opportunities to volunteer to spend time with our youngest church members. Please take notice of the new location of our signup board; it will be upstairs in the gathering area.

Blessings, Rachel Boccio & Robert Deleon

Sunday School News

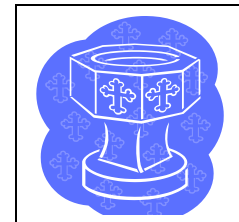
Sign up and join us for breakfast next Sunday March 6 beginning at 8:30 for a Mardi Gras style Pancake breakfast. There will be a free will offering to assist with the Church's building fund. **See you there!!!!**

The Sunday School is continuing to study the parables. They are currently working on the parables of the Lost Coin and the Lost Sheep.



Baptism

On Sunday December 5th we celebrated the baptism of Elliott, son of Casey and Kennedy.



United Methodist Women

We continue to work on the Church World Service kits. Please check with Priscilla Reynolds to see what is needed. We will meet on March 14th for our next meeting. Laura Clementsen will present a program called the *Beauty of Water*.



Outreach

UMARMY: This year the group will be going to attend a camp in the Greater Hartford Area during the week of July 17th. Several of the youth are already planning on attending but we need adult volunteers! Youth who have completed seventh grade are eligible to attend.

The Wallingford Shelter is always in need of the following items:

Juice - large bottles, not concentrate, Coffee, Cereal, and Sugar

Dates Coming Up

Blanket Sunday - May 1st and May 8th

May 13 & 14 3rd Annual Cereal Drive

Tool Sunday - June 12th and June 19th

A field trip to Heifer Farm is in the works!

A few tips to keep you safe!

Here are some tips to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning:

Invest in carbon monoxide detectors (also known as CO detectors).

Install a carbon monoxide detector on every floor or level of your home. Install additional detectors outside individual bedrooms. Check the batteries every time you check your smoke detector batteries; this is usually done at least twice a year on the days we change the clocks ("Fall Back, Spring Ahead").

Open the garage door before starting your car. Never run your car in a closed garage. If you have an attached garage, keep the garage door open and the door to the house firmly closed while the car is running. Repair or replace faulty car exhaust systems promptly.

Use gas appliances as recommended. Never use a gas stove or oven to heat your home. Use portable gas camp stoves only outdoors. Don't run a generator in an enclosed space, such as the basement or garage.

Keep your gas appliances and fireplace in good repair. Make sure your gas appliances are properly vented. Clean your fireplace chimney and flue every year. Ask your utility company about yearly checkups for all gas appliances, including your furnace.

If the alarm on your carbon monoxide detector goes off, or if you suspect someone in your home has carbon monoxide poisoning, leave the house right away and call 911!

PRAYER LIST: Walter Doyle, still recovering from fall. **Crissy Lausier's** aunt Sami West recovering from a kidney infection. **Edith Leaman. Shirley Massicott** recovering from surgery. Rebecca Mazeau, **Margaret Brown's** daughter now diagnosed with cancer while recovering from a stroke. Janice Crawford medical issues. Bruce Crawford medical issues. Baby Callie Elizabeth and her parents Jeremy and Leslie. **Jeff Beecher** in Hartford Hospital. Wayne Powell. **Linda Wiegert** Frank who has cancer. **Ruth Grandy's** son Doug. Jeanne Grill who has advanced ovarian cancer. **Kari Bloom** at home. **Roger Eckels** at Miller in Meriden. **Vera Stankus. Anne Krom. Jack Pregler.** Sandra Staski, **Jennifer Staski's** mother needs prayers for a fractured left wrist and shattered bone. Ann Moore, **Carrie Chace's** grandmother for a rare cancer. George Beebe, friend of Nancy Lindsay. Larry Baker for healing. Linda Neal. Bessie who received a kidney transplant. Whitney Basister, leukemia. Sharon with M.S. Jean Mcauliffe. Nate for drug addiction. Delilah McCormack, cancer. Bill Kershaw, ruptured ear drum, complete hearing loss on one side. Dave L. who has cancer in his foot. Mary, **Maria Joy's** grandmother. Pat Rogers, **Margaret Brown's** sister. Carl Anderson. Richard Gendron, **Ruth Grandy's** brother. Shawn Gilman to win his fight and recover from cancer. Joe Rodino. Philip Ardito. Diana who has cancer. Paul who needs prayers. Howard Shoemaker. Frank K. for continued healing. Janet W. who has a growth in in her eye. Chris & Rebecca Roben **Rachel Boccio's** sister. **Robert Deleon's** Uncle Jerry Juliano. Gloria who has pancreatic cancer.

Those in the military: Robert Patton deployed to Afghanistan, **Roy Graziano's** son-in-law. Erik Wehner, **Linda Passco's** son was deployed to South Korea after Christmas. Brent Craemer in the Coast Guard. Tim in Iraq. Curt Lindsay, USN stationed in Virginia Beach. Pastor Anne's godson, Ryan McIntyre. **Bob and Jennifer Woodtke's** son Robert Woodtke III, deployed to Afghanistan leaving behind his wife and seven week old son. **Michael Krampitz is home from Afghanistan!!**

UPCOMING DATES:

MARCH 6TH PANCAKE BREAKFAST! (Shrove Tuesday on Sunday!!) A celebration in Mardi Gras style just before Lent. Free will offering will be taken. Serving beginning at 8:30.

Monday March 7th Council Meeting @ 7:30

Wednesday March 9th Noon and 7p.m. Ash Wednesday Service Disciple will follow the evening worship service.

Monday March 14th UMW @ 7p.m.

Tuesday March 15th Field trip to Better Connecticut filming.

Tuesday March 15th Nurture Committee Meeting

Sunday March 20th Cheryl Bedore preaching at the 10 a.m. service

Monday March 21st Witness and Outreach Meeting

Sunday March 27th Healing Service at Wallingford First UMC at 4p.m. led by Rev. Ken Kieffer

Sunday March 27th Chili Cook-off for UMARMY

Saturday April 9th Dinner Theater! Save the date!! Fun, food and...mystery!!

Trustee News

As you would probably guess, removing the many inches of snowfall from recent storms is costly.

Don't forget that if anyone has time, help removing snow from the walks and entries and at the Parsonage is welcome. Al usually gets started promptly at storm's end.

The Trustees have actively sought proposals for a new heating system. It is something that must be addressed in 2011 as our current oil fired burner system has many rusted and deteriorating pipes.

It is agreed that changing to a gas fired system is the best choice. The questions focus on whether a hot air or hot water type would best serve us in a building that is more than 100 years old. Yes, either is very costly.

The finances of our Church, and we all feel the effects of the current economic climate, are of concern to the Trustees. We rely upon the interest generated from mortgage repayment to meet our expenses. This includes maintenance and repairs of both our church building and parsonage.

Major repairs this past year have included the roof, sewer pipes, and boiler service. Then we must include service contracts, insurance, plowing and routine maintenance. Few of these can be reduced or neglected.

We recently received a gift of a gently used snow blower from Toby as well as a starter gift toward the furnace bills which was dedicated to "Ed Roman, the patron saint of our furnace."