



## *Tidings*

Trappe-Bruceville Charge of the United Methodist Church  
February 2012-April 2012

### **Pastor's Piece**

Just recently, I attended the Bishop's Mid-Winter Retreat in Ocean City, MD. It was a wonderful time to connect with friends and engage in some thought provoking theological questions. There were two things that really touched me during this time. The first was getting to hear via video some testimonial from the Rev. Claire Wimbush. Rev. Claire is a 28 year-old Episcopalian pastor who has lived with cerebral palsy her entire life. Her comments are part of the Clergy Health Initiative conducted by Leadership Education at Duke Divinity. Rev. Claire challenged us to think about the difference between health and wholeness. She also shared with us how she has theologically reconciled her disability with being a part of the body of Christ. Being a person without a physical disability, hearing Rev. Claire share made me realize how easy it is to disregard a person with a disability as not being a part of the body of Christ, of not having gifts to share. This is absolutely not true. Those who have disabilities are a part of the body of Christ and are a part of the diversity of the Church. Because Rev. Claire's comments are part of the Clergy Health Initiative's teaching workshops they are unavailable for us to share with our congregations. But, they are anticipating being able to make them available later this year. I truly hope so, because she will make you think.

As many have come to realize, Bishop Johnson is passionate about making sure people with disabilities have a place in our worship services. She was so thrilled at how many in the deaf community responded to an invitation to join us for a special performance by a group called B.E.L.I.E.V.E. (which stands for Being Empowered, Living Inspired, Exemplifying Victory Every Day). This group is an American Sign Language Theatrical Performance Company. Currently all of their members are hearing, but know American Sign Language (ASL). They are open to and hope to have more from the deaf community join the company. They combine, ASL, dance and dramatic interpretation as part of their program that glorifies God. They use humor and drama. It was awesome to watch them dance and sign at the same time to praise songs like "How Great Is Our God." I am hoping that my colleagues here in Trappe will join with me in inviting them to come to our community and share their gifts with us.

Overall, there was a lot of emphasis upon diversity and bringing our differences together to have a richer worship experience instead of letting differences divide us. Jesus came for all people: therefore, we need to find ways for all of us to worship and work for the Kingdom of God together.

Grace and peace, Pastor Maleia



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## Pastor's Pooch

Mom is caught up watching the Ravens game and with today being the deadline for the newsletter articles, I figured I had better get on the computer and take care of things. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and that the New Year is off to a good start full of new beginnings. I don't know where you were when the New Year began, but I was snoozing on the sofa beside Pop-pop.

Now that Christmas has passed it is time to begin turning our attention towards Easter. Mom and the other pastors of Trappe haven't had a chance yet to sit down and set exact dates, times and places, but I am sure there will be joint Lenten services and Holy Week activities. So please keep checking the church bulletin and website for further information. I hope the weather isn't too hot or cold for the Cross Walk so that I can go along.

I heard Mom say that the Everybody's Birthday Party will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup>. It always sounds like a lot of fun with great food and a special game designed by the Sunday School class. Unfortunately this is a time when it isn't so fun to be a doggie because I can't go. So would someone please remind Mom that I like cake, too.

And we cannot forget about the St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds go to such a worthy cause:

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief). They help out people all over the world where natural disasters have struck. They help people to begin to rebuild their lives after such destruction. And as a reminder, 100% of all money they receive goes directly to help the victims. So please come out and support the Sunday School in this fundraiser. (P.S.: if Mom doesn't come home with some corned beef for me, I'm not going to let her in the house until she goes and gets some.)

Well, the game is almost over and I'm getting tired from all this typing, so I'm going to go take a nap. I might not get to go to some of these events, but I'll be looking out the window to see who does come. Hope to see you.

Woof! Woof!  
Scamp



### **Looking for important information?**

Here are some useful web addresses:

- Peninsula Conference UMC  
<http://www.pen-del.org/>
- Trappe-Faith Chapel Charge  
<http://trappfaithchapel.org/>



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### **Administrative Council News**

The Administrative Council is the primary group working for all members of the charge. It is responsible for the overall ministry of the churches, and the members include the minister, the chairman of the Council, the chairmen of various committees, and the secretary and treasurer.

The meetings are opened with a prayer and the reading of a Bible verse. The agenda plus financial information and other necessary written statements are given to all present. The order of the meetings follows the agenda. Council members listen to one another with respect yet are free to ask questions and offer different opinions. Discussions are formalized with motions made, seconded, and passed.

All members of the charge are affected by the decisions of the Council; therefore, it is important for all to know what is discussed and approved at the monthly meetings. Please note that the meetings are open to the members of the churches.

Monthly meetings are highlighted in the bulletins and in the Calendar found on the church website to keep everyone informed about the activities of the charge.

H. J. Brooks, Chairman of the  
Administrative Council

**Administrative Council meets the third  
Thursday of each month  
at 7 pm in Wesley Hall.**

### **New Visitation Ministry Launched in 2012**

The Administrative Council approved a new Visitation Ministry in December that originated from the PPRC in 2011. It was presented and discussed at the January Sunday Fellowship in Trappe and is intended to be a charge oriented mission beyond the normal pastoral monthly visits. We realize that not everyone has a passion or talent for doing such mission but would strongly encourage everyone to be in prayer for the visitation teams and those being visited. Other means of supporting this new mission could be providing small items to take along on visits such as baked goods or small bouquets of flowers and/or sending a card as a follow-up to a visit. Anyone who is interested in becoming a member of this new vision or would like to assist in anyway should contact Pastor Maleia, Dan Gustafson, or John Coleman. Please also provide any names and contact numbers for those within our charge that could benefit from such a visit in the future. Thanks so much!

Dan Gustafson



[Ed. Note: Check out the next page and consider how you can support this ministry.]



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### **Team Visitation Ministry Trappe/Bruceville UMC Charge (Updated November 15, 2011)**

There needs to be an orientation for any laity taking part in this ministry before visitations are scheduled.

#### **Purpose:**

- Find out if help with practical assistance is needed
- Comfort those who grieve
- Listening to needs of shut-ins and hospitalized
- Team visit those that wish to have visitors (within the charge)

#### **Who Needs to Be Visited:**

- Elderly people still living independently especially if they are shut-ins
- Elderly or disabled people living in nursing homes
- People who are sick for prolonged periods of time
- People who are hospitalized
- Bereaved people and families

#### **Who Should Do the Visitation:**

Visitation teams of 2-3 people (Laity and/or Pastor) that are comfortable comforting and encouraging those members of the churches that have requested a visit from within the charge

Please note that this does not mean that those who are already performing this visitation ministry (Pastor and/or laity) will not stop as this is to encourage more visitations by others in the future

Visiting is a viable ministry for people with this kind of gift and/or personality especially if their heart reaches out to people who are hurting, lonely, or in need

#### **Specifics for laity member visitations:**

1. Two-three members make-up visitation team
2. Names provided by charge members
3. Initiate contact by phone first
4. First visit should be 30 minutes or less in duration
5. Offer to prayer for any concerns
6. Discuss on-going church charge programs (using bulletin and charge brochure)
7. Leave something small behind as reminder of visit
8. Pray as team that they enjoyed their visit and ask for a repeat visit in the future

#### **What Should Happen in a Typical Visit:**

1. Spend most of your time listening (let them talk)
2. Respect their space, property, and time
3. Be sensitive with the kind of stories that you tell
4. Extend the gift of touch (hug, hand on shoulder, holding their hands)
5. Offer to pray with them
6. Leave something with them (card, flower, last week's bulletin, food)

**Quarterly team feedback assessments are encouraged.**



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### UMW News

You are invited to a party....a birthday party. It's **EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY PARTY**. We all have them, so let's celebrate! Bring your favorite casserole and your family and friends and join the fun!

**SUNDAY FEB 19 at 4 p.m.**  
**(no snow date)**

We are collecting cleaning supplies for Hospice again. These include paper towels, toilet tissue, trash bags, Tide, Bounce dryer sheets, wipes and Lysol cleaners. If you would like to contribute something, please bring it to the church before March 14.

In December we sent 120 bags of Christmas cookies to the Detention Center in Easton. We have received several thank-you notes from very appreciative people. Following is a quote from one:

"Hello and thanks so much for the gift...and the awesome cookies. They taste like they were made by someone who truly cares about people...all people even if they never met. So I offer your church the Best Christmas greetings and I wish everyone of you good health and joy! Merry Christmas ...and thanks again."

[Editor's Note: Amazing what a little flour, sugar, and Christian love can do!]

K. Green, UMW Secretary

### Church Library

If you have visited the library recently you have noticed that the shelves are full of great books on a great many subjects. There are 12 volumes of Bible Commentary, 2 concordances, a 3 volume commentary on Psalms, and many daily devotional guides. These books are on the Sunday School shelves. There are also 2 bookcases that are nearly full. These include fiction, nonfiction, Christian living and education. The next step is a card catalogue for referencing and locating a particular book. There will be an Easter section set up. I am not sure what books will be there but we do have video tapes of the classic Easter movies like *The Robe*, and *Ben Hur*. There are also Easter Bible study books. Recommending a particular book is difficult with so many choices and so many old favorites.

The fiction section spans the generations from Grace Livingston Hill books and Jan Karon books from The Mitford Series to the huge bestseller *The Shack*. The selection of inspirational books has something to offer everyone. The teen section is growing and the children's section has books for education and fun. The biographical books are quite varied and include many people of the Bible. As my new bookmark says, "So many books, So little time," but do take the time to visit, learn, and enjoy.

C. Edwards



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## Yard Sale

The Yard Sale, up to and including January 14, 2012 has made \$100,132.90.

Trappe	\$ 52,178.40
Faith	<u>\$ 47,954.50</u>
	\$100,132.90

The Yard Sale, also called Martha's Closet, was started September 19, 1978. Thanks to all who donate to the Yard Sale and Breakfast and work for both.

K. Metz

## Greeters and Ushers

I want to thank all the Greeters and Ushers for November, December, and January. They all did a very good job. I am very proud and happy with them. God bless them!

### Greeters

January: Jimmy and Honey Townsend  
February: Debbie Howard and Jane Geist  
March: Brenda Handleman and Ellen Whitby

### Ushers

January: Jimmy and Honey Townsend  
February: Newton Williams and Russell Leonard  
March: Brenda Handleman and Ellen Whitby

Thank you and God bless everyone for doing just a good job.

E. Whitby

## Match the Numbers

- a. 34      \_\_\_\_\_ Stained glass windows in TUMC Sanctuary
- b. 64      \_\_\_\_\_ Number in Confirmation Class
- c. 10      \_\_\_\_\_ Bags of groceries donated to Neighborhood Service Center
- d. 10,773      \_\_\_\_\_ Number of hymns in the UM Hymnal
- e. 15      \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Shoeboxes collected in November
- f. 733      \_\_\_\_\_ Next deadline day for March *Tidings*
- g. 6      \_\_\_\_\_ Apportionment amount met in 2011

[Answers will be published in the Feb. 12 bulletin]

### Tidings Help Wanted Ads

**Excellent work conditions and out-of-this world benefits. CEO top-rated.**

Breakfast workers  
Yard sale workers  
UMW members  
Choir members  
Visitation crew members and supporters  
Mentors for Confirmation Class

Contact Pastor Maleia today.



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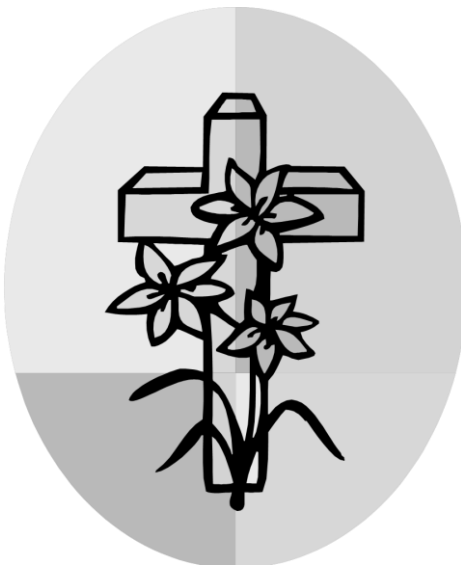
## Easter Lilies

Dear Church Friends,

We will be placing lilies in the church on Easter Sunday as a way to honor someone or remember someone special in our lives. If you wish to place a lily in the church for Easter, please fill out the form below and give it to Barbara Coleman/Elizabeth Myers OR place it in the offering plate in church before April 1, 2012. The cost of a lily is \$8.50. Please make your check payable to Trappe UMC and mark it for lilies.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Coleman  
Elizabeth Myers

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### EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

If you wish to place a lily in the church for Easter, please fill in the information below and give to Elizabeth Myers or Barbara Coleman OR place it in the offering plate with your payment of \$8.50 each by April 1, 2012. Please make your check payable to Trappe UMC and mark it Lilies.

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: In Memory of (for those not living)      In Honor of: (for those living)

\_\_\_\_\_



# *Findings*

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