



GUNNISONVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Est. 1888

January 2011 Newsletter

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Dear friends,

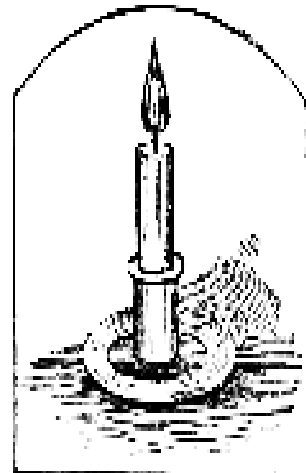
One of the most overlooked holidays in the church is Epiphany. Twelve days after Christmas the church has traditionally set this day aside to remember the visit of the Wise Men as they presented their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to Jesus. The name "Epiphany" literally means "a revelation." On this special day we celebrate the revelation that these wise men understood – there was something special about this child of Mary and Joseph. As the Apostle John reminds us, Jesus is the light of the world!

Epiphany is January 6th. This year we will celebrate this special occasion on the following Sunday, January 9th as we revel in the light that Jesus brings to us. I invite you to participate in this celebration by bringing candles from your home to add to an altar display of light. Bring as many as you like. If it is possible, bring these candles to church before that Sunday so we can get a head start on setting up this display. I hope to have a large and varied collection of candles all burning brightly before us as we lift up our praises before the One who shines his light in the midst of our darkness and who calls us to be the light of the world revealing his grace to all we meet.

God bless you as we enter this New Year together and may the Light of Christ shine brightly in our midst!

Your Pastor,

Mark



It's been said that if you don't know where you are going any road will get you there. Our lives are so much richer when we have a clear purpose that propels them forward. In his bestselling book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, Rick Warren helps us answer the fundamental question, "What on earth am I here for?"



I want to form one or two groups that would meet to explore this life-changing book. These groups would each meet six times starting in February. Please prayerfully consider this offer and let me know if you would like to participate so that we can order a copy of the book for you.

These groups will also serve as Membership Classes for any who are interested in exploring the possibility of joining our church.

God bless you as you continue to seek his will for your life!

Pastor Mark



On February 7th we will celebrate **Camp Sunday**. Our order of worship will be morphed into the schedule of a typical day at church camp. We will sing camp songs, play games, eat three square meals from God's word, enjoy an evening talent show and worship at firebowl (without the fire of course). All within one hour!

I invite you to wear sweatshirts and jeans or whatever clothes are comfortable for you. Also, let me know if you have something you would be willing to share with your church family for our talent show.

May God bless us all as we bring some sunshine into the middle of winter!

Pastor Mark

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

09 Linda Parkinson
12 Alan Reed
13 Ron Balzer
14 Dudley Elkins
19 Harold Hayes
25 Norma Jean Crowell

25 John Hagy
26 Pat Fillwock
26 Kathryn Balzer Reed
27 Maurie Ogle
29 Edwin Fulkerson
29 Sam VanEtten

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

01 Thomas and Ande Glasmacher

30 Larry and Nancy Drolett

HOSTESSES:

02 Florence Hartman
16 Joyce Barker
30 Bernice Green & Brenda Detzler

09 Norma Jean and Lorna
23 Johanna Balzer

NO SERVICE CLUB THIS MONTH

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the Christmas gift you gave us at the Children's Christmas Program. Mark will wear his new sweatshirt proudly. How did you ever know that green is his favorite color! Johnie has deposited the rest of the gift in the bank to help us go on our next big vacation trip. May God bless you all as together we enter into the New Year!

Gratefully,
Mark and Johnie

HEIFER PROJECT

The goal was \$1500 dollars and that would buy 1 heifer, 2 llamas, 2 sheep and 4 goats through Heifer International for poor people around the world. The goal was reached plus \$148 besides that was given to the Open Door Ministry of downtown Lansing. The Mission Committee thanks everyone for their generous support.

SCHEDULING EVENTS: Contact Florence Hartman at 517.333.3616 to schedule any events at church.

FEBRUARY 2011 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: January 16, 2011
bbest@4wbi.net



Give us today our daily bread
Matthew 6:11

Our Thanksgiving collection of tuna fish and peanut butter was very much appreciated. We had 225 cans of tuna fish and 149 jars of peanut butter. It was all distributed at the December Clinton County Mobile Food Pantry. We give you all a big THANK YOU for helping feed the less fortunate. We still need to collect tuna fish and peanut butter in the year 2011 as the need is still very much there.

Helen Holcomb

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



**Shannon Proctor, Nathan Reed, Charlene Bisel, Bernice Green,
Marlene Walker
Carolann Cochran and Madisyn Reed**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Spring is coming which means hundreds of stray mothers and unwanted kittens need your help.

Mid-Michigan Cat Rescue (MMCR) is looking for volunteers to help care for our rescued cats and kittens at our main foster home located in the Lansing area, at our adoption events and we even have activities you can help with from home. Our volunteers are a great group of people ranging

from teenagers to seniors. Help is needed with everything from office work and making crafts to brushing cats. You don't have to have a special skill, just the love of animals and the willingness to give your time and attention to abandoned and unwanted cats and kittens who desperately need your help. Even an hour a month would be appreciated.

MMCR is an all volunteer based, no-kill, non-profit organization that is working in your area to provide medical care and find homes for unwanted pets. So if you would like to be involved creating happy ending for hundreds of forgotten pets or have questions about what you might be able to contribute, please give us a call at 517-622-4653 or visit our website at www.mmcr.petfinder.com, for more information.

Proverbs 12: 10. "A righteous man cares for the needs of his animal, but the kindest acts of the wicked are cruel." Proverbs 12: 10.

CHRISTMAS TEA December 5, 2010



January's Sunday School Update

January's B.i.G. Theme
We can Talk to God

January's B.i.G. Idea
We believe that God hears and answers our prayers.

January's Bible Verse
Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. Philippons 4:6, CEV

January 2, 2011
Hannah 1 Samuel 1:1-2:10; 2:18-21

January 9, 2011
Solomon 1 Kings 3:3-15

January 16, 2011
Peter in Prison Acts 12:1-19

January 23, 2011
Psalm 130 Psalm 130

January 30, 2011
The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM December 19, 2010



Ringing the Bells

Kalyn Proctor



**GUNNISONVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2011 CHURCH OFFICERS**

Mark Johnson, Pastor

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

Chair	Laurel Headley
Lay Leader	Marvin Rhynard
Secretary	Phyllis Rhynard
Treasurer	Joyce Barker
Financial Secretary	Lois Baumer
Annual Conf. Lay Member	Johanna Balzer
Membership Secretary	Florence Hartman
Caring Ministry Chair	Nancy Drolett
Historical Chair	Lois Baumer
Finance Chair	Billy Baker
Missions Chair	Darlinda VanEtten
Staff Parish Relations Chair	Lois Baumer
Trustee Chair	John Headley
Worship Chair	Kathy Hundt

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Lois Baumer, Chair
Billy Baker
Katie Drolett
Nancy Drolett
Florence Hartman
Kathy Hundt
Alta Reed
Phyllis Rhynard

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Faye Hagy
Phyllis Rhynard

CARING MINISTRY TEAM

Nancy Drolett, Chair
Florence Hartman, Public Relations
Jane Casler
Norma Jean Crowell
Katie Drolett
Lora Mae Higbee
Connie LeFever
Alta Reed
Marlene Walker
Barb Wicker

MISSIONS AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

Darlinda VanEtten, Chair
Laurel Headley, Hunger
Kathy Hundt, Hunger
Joyce Barker
Jane Casler
Billie Gladstone
Connie LeFever
Bea Shirey
Sandy Taylor

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Billy Baker, Chair
Joyce Barker, Treasurer
Lois Baumer, Financial Secretary
Marvin Rhynard, Lay Leader
Johanna Balzer, Annual Conf. Lay Mem.
Darlinda VanEtten
Jennifer Dobson

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Mark Johnson, Chair
Marvin Rhynard, Lay Leader
Darlinda VanEtten 2011
Alta Reed 2011
Katie Drolett 2012
Al Holcomb 2012
Stan Murray 2012
Lorna Coulter 2013

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Lois Baumer, Chair
Marvin Rhynard, Lay Leader
Johanna Balzer, Annual Conf. Lay Member
Ande Glasmacher 2012
Jerry Taylor 2012
Darlinda Van Etten 2012

ABUSE PREVENTION

Ron Balzer
Katie Drolett
Faye Hagy

TRUSTEES

John Headley, Chair 2011
Gary Baker 2011
Nancy Drolett 2011
Al Gladstone 2011
Allen Holcomb 2011
Dave Hundt 2012
Alan Reed 2012
Katie Drolett 2013
Lorna Coulter 2013

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Allen & Helen Holcomb
Stan & Phyllis Murray
Walt Sutton & Beri Wolford
Al & Billie Gladstone

NEWSLETTER

Barbara Best
Lorna Coulter
Alta Reed
Phyllis Rhynard

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathy Hundt, Chair
Nancy Drolett, Organist/Choir Director
Billy Baker
Billie Gladstone
Don Price
Don Reed
Marvin Rhynard, Lay Leader

WELCOME TEAM

Florence Hartman
Lora Mae Higbee
Ron Balzer

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM

Ande Glasmacher, Kathryn Reed, Co-Chairs
Jamie Boyle
Faye Hagy
Sarah Hundt
Johnie Johnson
Dawn Kelly
Julie Reed

RAINING DIAMONDS
by Beth Lindley,
A friend of Lorna Coulter

While driving to work this morning,
I watched as diamonds fell from the sky
diamonds of all shapes, and cut
their free-falls arbitrary and fast.

Icicles that clung to trees, grass and electric lines
arrived last week when the storm hit.
The hours of wet and cold combined to create glass-like
chambers for all exposed life.

As the sun warmed the earth on its upward journey in the sky
the ice cocoons began to lose their hold.
Cemented watery roots began their descent from their base
and the daggers were released to pierce the pavement
and splinter into diamonds.

Still bent from the arthritis and stiffness of winter,
I stretch my melting soul while walking on diamonds
and crunching them beneath lucid feet.

**Think of the number of trees and blades of grass
And flowers, the extravagant wealth of
Beauty no one ever sees!
Think of the sunrises and sunsets we never look at!
God is lavish in every degree.
.....Oswald Chambers**