

The Circuit Writer

Mt. Jackson United Methodist



Dependency Deepened in Three Foot of Snow

The heavy burden of snow upon the frames of our Church, our homes, our schools, and our government is a visible image of a much deeper, more frosted reality. Similar to the way VDOT pushes snow for the sake of emergency management, everyone else is pushing away at burdens. With so many people suffering want and anxiety from lack of work, education, health care, family support, and the basic necessities, the push has become desperate and determined. Just as VDOT's equipment is aging fast, so too is the equipment of our pushing. It's time we collectively shift our attentions from what we can do for ourselves to what God will do with our full trust and best efforts to follow Christ.

Interestingly, the Church is about to observe the season of Lent in which we walk with Christ in His wilderness experience. Riddled with temptations to shift attention away from pleasing God to taking easier routes of self-preservation, Christ demonstrated to the world the benefits of remaining true to God the Father and ultimately to Himself. It is in Lent that we, the followers of Jesus Christ, are to embrace Jesus' uncompromising Spirit to remain true. **Likewise, our push is about making full use of God's push** against the heavy burdens which shake our homes, our schools, our government and our work places. With so many snow cancellations, our church's screaming temptation is officially upon us. The temptation is to dilute the potency of our mission and of God's message to meet a growing deficit through mere financial management. Together, with each of us pooling our faith, we will, with God's support, make 2010 the year where we had the option of doing "Ministry Light" and we chose "Ministry Heavy"! Together we can truly please God and be true to ourselves!

With our attention on making full use of God's push against the heavy burdens, careful attention to exercising our faith through prayer and missions will occupy our attentions as we live into God's calling for our church this year! In the weeks ahead, people will gather as problem solvers and as followers of Christ to discover together a course of faith and action to join God's push! Please pray intently for wisdom and an uncompromised faith in God's provisions to rule our every gathering!

With Love & Respect,
Pastor Ken

Happy February Birthdays!



- 2/6 Jennifer Hackenbracht
- 2/10 Colton Henry
- 2/14 Pat Callis
- 2/14 Jean Estep
- 2/14 Onie Frye
- 2/19 Scott Carpenter
- 2/20 Beverly Orndorff
- 2/27 Shirley Hackenbracht

And

Happy Early March Birthdays!

- 3/2 Bob Luse
- 3/3 Gary Driver
- 3/5 Patrick Henry
- 3/6 Ted Dent

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### *Easter/Birthday/Mother's Day Gift*

Remember that the  
**United Methodist Women Cookbook**  
will be available for sale (\$10) every Sunday  
following church service  
in the social hall.  
Or, call Freddie Forster at 477-3943.

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New Members!

We would like to welcome our newest church members Julie and Bill Rasmussen, who transferred their membership to MJUMC in January. You may add their address to your church directory—

878 Mt. Jackson Road
Mt. Jackson, VA 22842

Welcome to our Family!

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### **NOW**

The NOW meeting, scheduled for Sat., Feb. 20th at 10:00 AM in the church social hall offers a wonderful opportunity for all church organizations/committees to do planning for this year. The 1st 45 minutes will be for individual meetings, then the rest will be to share plans and update our church calendar. See you there!



## **United Methodist Men News**

January 20, 2010

The United Methodist Men of the Mt. Jackson United Methodist Charge met Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010, in the church social hall with 20 members and no guests present.

The invocation was given by Pastor Ken.

Following a delicious turkey pot pie dinner served by the women of the church, the business meeting was called to order by the President, Steve Forster. Joe Williams told a humorous joke concerning a 50 some year olds' reluctance to go to school.

Jack Sperry presented devotions from the January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Upper Room entitled "Helping Hands" based on Psalm 63:1-8. He also shared a reading entitled "The Law of the Garbage Truck".

The minutes of the November, 14, 2009 meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$1,539.42. The net cost of the annual Christmas Dinner was \$341.00. The report was approved as presented.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, the President stated this meeting will be an organizational meeting to establish member assignments for devotions, head ushers, and event chairmen along with confirming fund raisers and special events throughout the year. Sheets for head usher and devotions, respectively, were circulated. The following schedule of events and fundraisers was presented and adopted by consent:

- February 21 – first quarterly Fellowship Breakfast, social hall, 8:00 am.
- March 5 – Pancake/Sausage Supper in cooperation with UMW, 5:00 pm.
- April 4- Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast. Pastor Ken will arrange the worship service, Chairperson (s) of breakfast to be determined later.
- May 9 – Mother's Day Recognition. Pastor Ken to arrange speaker, UMM to fill choir and assist in service. Choir practice after church service May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- May 29 – 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Lawn Party in cooperation with UMW. Chairperson(s) to be determined later. Suggested uses of proceeds: general fund and local mission trip.
- June 6 – second quarterly Fellowship Breakfast, social hall, 8:00 pm.
- August 18 – annual work night in lieu of regular meeting. 6:00 pm start with meal.
- August 29 – third quarterly Fellowship Breakfast, social hall, 8:00 am.
- November 12 – annual Spaghetti Supper, 5:00 pm, chairperson(s) to be determined later.
- November 21 – fourth quarterly Fellowship Breakfast, social hall, 8:00 am.
- Annual Christmas Dinner – 6:30 pm, Chairmen: gifts for honorees – Steve Forster, caterer – Doug Estep,

program and entertainment - Ken Hackenbracht.

The next item of new business was establishment of meeting programs. The matter of a theme was discussed and "civic organizations" was suggested. The following programs were set for the following months:

- February – Veterans of Foreign Wars- Joe Williams to secure speaker.
- March- Freemasons- Ken Hackenbracht and Joe Williams will present.
- June – Economics/Economist – Rod Sheppard will arrange.

Other program suggestions were Ruritans – Howard Hackenbracht will talk to Joe Bowman; National Guard, Civil War reenactment – Gary Driver will pursue this, and Greg Hernandez – also reenactments. Gary Driver is our Camp Overlook Representative and may be able to arrange a program from there.

Roger Miller suggested the organization make a contribution to Haiti earthquake relief. Howard Hackenbracht moved we contribute \$100.00 and it be placed in the collection bowl in the back of the church, the contents of which will go to the United Methodist Committee On Relief.(UMCOR money goes 100% for relief, none is taken out for administrative expense). Motion seconded by Roger Miller. Motion carried.

Rod Sheppard announced a Rain Barrel Project Workshop will be held in Mt. Jackson in April or May sponsored by Friends of the North Fork. The project encourages collecting rain water in barrels for irrigation or other water uses. Rod will have more details later.

There being no further business, Pastor Ken led us in a closing prayer and the group joined in singing the doxology.

**Ken Hackenbracht**

Secretary

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United Methodist Women



We would like to invite all women of the church to our monthly meeting held on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. The following is a synopsis of our January 7 meeting.

President Betty Luse called the meeting to order - there were 5 members present.

No minutes - UMW do not have a regular meeting in December.

CORRESPONDENCE: Betty read thank you notes received from the prior month.

Treasurer Shirley Hackenbracht gave the financial report for November and December. She also reported on cards sent to church members from the UMW.

KITCHEN: Jean Estep reported on kitchen news. The UMM dinner on January 20 will be Turkey Pot Pie.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS: Women were asked to think of ideas and a theme for Mother-Daughter Banquet to be held in May. The next UMW meeting will be held February 4, 7:00 p.m.

Jean Estep closed the meeting with a prayer.

Brenda Driver for
Freddie Forster, Secretary

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**Church Calendar for  
February 2010**



- 2/14 Sun. Transfiguration Sunday, White**  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Children/Youth SS  
-under Sanctuary  
11:00 AM Worship
- 2/15 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library
- 2/16 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir
- 2/17 Wed. 6:30 PM UMM Dinner Meeting  
6:30 PM Quicksburg Ash Wed Srvc  
8:00 PM MJUMC Ash Wed Service
- 2/19 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library
- 2/20 Sat. 10:00 AM NOW Meeting in Soc Hall
- 2/21 Sun. 1st Sunday in Lent, Purple**  
**Boy Scout Sunday**  
8:00 AM UMM Breakfast  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Children/Youth Sunday  
School-under Sanctuary  
11:00 AM Worship  
3:00 PM Disciple Bible Study at  
Sperry's home
- 2/22 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library
- 2/23 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 2/24 Wed. 6:30 PM Quicksburg Ad Council
- 2/26 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library
- 2/28 Sun. 2nd Sunday in Lent, Purple**  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Children/Youth Sunday  
School-under Sanctuary  
11:00 AM Worship  
3:00 PM Disciple Bible Study at  
Sperry's home

**Early March Calendar**

- 3/3 Wed. 5:00 PM Newsletter articles due to BG
- 3/5 Fri. 5:00 PM + UMM/UMW Pancake Supper
- 3/7 Sun. 3rd Sunday in Lent, Purple**  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Children/Youth Sunday  
School-under Sanctuary  
11:00 AM Worship  
2:30 PM Visitation @ Life Care  
3:00 PM Disciple Bible Study at  
Sperry's home