

The Circuit Writer

Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church



Greater Things Are Yet To Come

Arriving at Mount Jackson United Methodist Church, my enthusiasm was on steroids. With an attention towards celebrating the past to pursue the future, everything seemed to be within our reach. It seemed that most everything we wanted was just a few months away from finding its momentum and just a year away from finding full stride.

Many New Testament epistles were written with a similar version of expectancy and expediency. From Acts to the Corinthians the pages are filled with a belief that everything they wanted was surely just a few months away from revolutionizing their world.

For both, 21st Century churches embracing a fresh start and the 1st Century Church, enthusiasm was in abundant supply. So what happened when both of their timelines were shifted as God's will and purposes were revealed?

CHANGE / CHANGE / CHANGE

How change is interpreted by leadership and by the people often varies significantly. For some, change means "The Best Has Come and Gone." For others, change means "Greater Things Are Yet To Come."

Where are you in your interpretation of change? Where am I on my interpretation of change? Where is God in our interpretation?

You are about to begin 'Year Four' with me as your pastor and I am about to begin 'Year Four' with you as my church. Let's be in prayer together as we ask God to direct our interpretations of change to reflect a rally cry of "Greater Things Are Yet To Come."

Appreciating the Love We Share in Christ,
Pastor Ken

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**Yard Sale for Missions**  
**Saturday, May 8th**

Please bring your goodies to the Rt. 11 Flea Market in the morning of the sale. All proceeds go towards supplies for our mission week at the Food Pantry.



### Happy May & Early June Birthdays!

- 5/3 Warren Hepler
- 5/7 Mary Weaver
- 5/9 Timmy Ambrose
- 5/11 Katie Davis
- 5/14 Ann Hockman
- 5/18 Gene Harris
- 5/19 Louise Dellinger
- 5/23 Cinnamon Blackman
- 5/23 Beth DeWitt
- 5/26 Joan Towe
- 6/1 Dana Black
- 6/2 Mary Anne Miller
- 6/3 Jack Sperry



### Special Event with Emily



Captain Emily Rexrode and her *Emily's Buddies* team successfully raised funds for the MS Association during the MS Walk on April 24 in Harrisonburg. She had quite a crew from the church who teamed with her for that special activity. Thank you, all who gave and all who came out in loving support of Emily and her family.





## 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 April 1, 2010 meeting.

President Betty Luse called the meeting to order with 14 members present.

Secretary Freddie Forster read the minutes from the March 4 meeting. Treasurer Shirley Hackenbracht gave her financial report. Shirley also reported on various cards sent to church members from the UMW during the past month, such as birthday and get well wishes.

Betty reported that she heard from Donna Wolfe that the group of men and women from Roanoke that will be touring the Mt. Jackson area on September 8 accepted our charge of \$10 per person to serve them lunch.

Jean Estep reported on our kitchen news. Jean will be having knee surgery in April and will not be available for the April UMM dinner; it was decided that Bonnie Good will be in charge of that dinner.

Under Old Business: Jean Estep reported that the entertainment she was checking on for the Mother/Daughter Banquet will be unavailable. Sabrina Showalter offered to check on a possible source of entertainment. Jennifer Hackenbracht reported that she reserved Creekside for the dinner and it was decided that we will charge \$10 for tickets again this year. Joan Towe will plan a program and Jean will do a poster. Jennifer and Brenda will begin selling tickets on April 18. We will also sell cookbooks at the dinner.

Under New Business: Sabrina suggested and is checking on inviting Susan Teeter to host a tea party at our June meeting. Joan Towe suggested and will check on the feasibility of contacting new persons that move into our area to invite them to attend our church. Joan will contact real estate persons to see if they can provide names and will also check on prices of small welcome gifts. She will report back to us at the May meeting.

Joan Towe closed the meeting with a prayer.

*Freddie Forster, Secretary*



### Notable

#### Church Bulletin/Announcement Bloopers :) (not ours...)

“Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.”



“A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.”

## Celebration of Life



Lenten season, passion week, Maundy Thursday and the celebration of our risen Lord have passed.

This was and still is an emotional event. The belittling, pain, and suffering that Christ had to endure are beyond anything that our minds can completely grasp.

Spring is in the air, those trees that stood barren and seemingly dead in the cold brown earth have emerged.

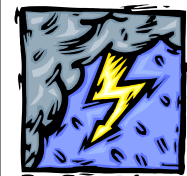
Everything has taken on a new life. Tiny leaves bud and flowers appear on the trees, the harsh cold earth is now lush and green. Tiny buttercups flourish, reaching up to the sun. Daffodils and tulips spring forth in brilliant colors. God's own coloring book.



Let us look at the world through a different set of eyes. When we hear a newborn baby cry, it's a new life. When we see a calf lying in the field with steam rising from it's body, just born, it's a new life. As each flower buds, each vegetable produces, it's new life, let us praise God. Every time we see a new life let us think of the eternal life that Jesus gave us.

The rays of the sun reach down and engulf us in it's warmth just like a special hug from our Heavenly Father himself. Do you feel it?

The raging storms come with rain and wind to produce new life on this beautiful world that God created for us. Just as Jesus went through the raging storms, died and lay inside a cold dark tomb, then rose from the grave to bring us a new life, a life filled with hope, peace, love, and eternal life.



Who could ask for anything more!

We are so unworthy of the tremendous love that God gives us. Let us be humbled that even though we are sinners, our God gave his only Son to us, to die and save us from our sins, so that we may one day live in Heaven with Him.

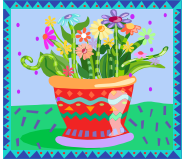
What greater gift is there than Love!!

Let us ponder on these things as we see the rich hues of a sunrise or sunset. Let us reflect when we hear the choir of birds chirping and whistling heralding in another new day. They are God's own praise and worship team.

As the old saying goes, "Stop and smell the roses." This Spring, take the time and when you do, think about the one who did all this just for us!!!

Praise God!!

*Joan Towe*



**Church Calendar for  
May 2010**

**5/2 Sun. 5th Sunday of Easter, White**  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 10:00 AM Children/Youth SS  
 11:00 AM Worship

5/3 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library  
 5/6 Thurs. 7:00 PM UMW Meeting  
 5/7 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library  
 5/8 Sat. TBA Church Yard Sale

**5/9 Sun. 6th Sunday of Easter, White  
 Mother's Day**  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 10:00 AM Children/Youth SS  
 11:00 AM Worship

5/10 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library  
 5/11 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice  
 5/12 Wed. 7:00 PM Church Council  
 5/14 Fri. 6:30 PM Mother/Daughter Banquet  
 8:00 PM AA, Library

**5/16 Sun. 7th Sunday of Easter, White**  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 10:00 AM Children/Youth SS  
 11:00 AM Worship

5/17 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library  
 5/18 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice  
 5/19 Wed. 6:30 PM UMM Dinner Meeting  
 5/21 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library

**5/23 Sun. Pentecost, Red**  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 10:00 AM Children/Youth SS  
 11:00 AM Worship

5/24 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library  
 5/25 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice  
 5/28 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library  
 5/29 Sat. 4:00 - Church Lawn Party

**5/30 Sun. Trinity Sunday, White**  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 10:00 AM Children/Youth SS  
 11:00 AM Worship

5/31 Mon. 8:00 PM AA, Library  
 6/1 Tues. 7:00 PM Choir Practice  
 6/2 Wed. AM-PM Newsletter articles to BG  
 6/4 Fri. 8:00 PM AA, Library

**6/6 Sun. Second Sunday after Pentecost,  
 Green**  
 9:45 AM Sunday School  
 10:00 AM Children/Youth SS  
 11:00 AM Worship