

# **Rittman United Methodist Church**

## **Points to Ponder - February 2011**

Volume 42 - Issue No. 2  
Rev. Chuck Kaliszewski, Pastor  
Sheila Stoll, Editor

Thank God for what  
you have,  
**TRUST GOD** for what  
you need.



### **Being Courageous**

Last month I shared with you my desire and resolve to find ways to live the motto “Simple Life - Simple Church.” Simple is not the same as easy. In fact, simple is very hard to achieve. But simple church is a matter of focusing on our purpose, and making our purpose our process. As a United Methodist congregation, our purpose is “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” Ephesians 4:11-13 says, “So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip His people for *works of service* so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and *become mature*, attaining to the whole measure of Christ.” (italics added) But what does a mature disciple look like? We as the church need to ask ourselves, are we moving people to spiritual maturity? Are we being used by God to spiritually transform people toward more Christ-likeness - towards attaining the whole measure of Christ? Some churches have adopted the phrase, “Loving God, Loving People, and Serving the World.” Others are rallying around “Living Our Faith through Word and Action.” Do either of these statements resonate within you? Do you nod in agreement at their simplicity yet profoundness? Do they represent the Rittman United Methodist Church?

In the coming months some activities are being planned to help people “grow in Christ.” We’ve purchased the rights to show the movie *Courageous* and intend to use it as a catalyst for disciple-making. *Courageous* was produced by Sherwood Pictures which is a ministry of the Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. Their intent is to “call men to rise up to the Biblical standard of manhood, to serve their wives and children, and to be pillars of integrity in the community.” We’ll be showing the movie several times, beginning with our Valentine’s Day dinner & movie, a men’s breakfast event, a date night movie night, and a mid-week morning matinee. We will also offer a Bible study based on this movie to help people to gather together to support one another in their faith journey.

You will also see that in the coming weeks we will be holding another family movie night, a family game night, and a Big Game Tailgate Party. These events are not only for you, but also for you to invite your family, friends and neighbors. Let’s encourage others to join us not only for Spirit-filled worship on Sunday mornings, but for fellowship and spiritual transformation as we journey through life together.

Please continue to pray that we find a way towards a more simple life which is centered on our relationship with God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*God is good, all the time*

*Pastor Chuck*

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#### **Valentine’s Day Dinner & Movie - Feb 12**

Come help support our community food pantry as you enjoy a great meal and movie. The event will be held on Sunday, Feb 12th at 5:00 p.m. The movie will begin at 6:00 and if you cannot make it to dinner, come and watch the movie *Courageous* with us. Tickets will be available on Sunday mornings or by calling the church office, 330-925-4015. The suggested donation for dinner is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 6-12 years old. See Sandy Gasser if you have any questions.

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#### **Big Game Tailgate Party - Feb 5**

Come join us for a tailgate party on Sunday, Feb 5th at 6:00 p.m. Bring some munchies to share and let’s enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship. We’ll watch the Big Game on the big screen in the Social Hall.

### **Family Movie Night - Feb 26**

Come join us on Sunday, Feb 26th for a light meal at 5:00 p.m. and the movie Dolphin Tale at 6:00 p.m. as we kick off our Family Movie Nights. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more details...

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### **Men's Breakfast & Movie - Feb 25**

Men, come enjoy a hearty breakfast and a chance to watch the movie Courageous. We're inviting our city's safety forces to join us, too. We'll be scheduling a follow-up Men's Bible study based on the movie. The coffee will be ready at 7:30 a.m. and the movie will start by 8:30 so we'll be done before noon.

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### **Ash Wednesday - Feb 22**

We will once again hold an informal but meditative worship service on Ash Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The service will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.

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### **Lenten Study**

We will hold a dvd-based Lenten study on Thursday and Sunday mornings beginning Thursday Feb 23 at 9:15 a.m. and Sunday Feb 26 at 10:00 a.m. In last year's study, 24 Hours That Changed the World, Adam Hamilton took us on a Lenten journey through the last day of Jesus' life. Now, in his inspiring follow-up book, Hamilton examines Christ's dying hours and his final words as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross.

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### **NAME THE PRAISE BAND!**

There will be a prize for the winner. Judges will be the Praise Band members. Look for a box in the narthex to put your suggestion in.

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### **FOOD PANTRY**

The Food Pantry served 145 people in January, 57 families with 3 new families added to our list of those we serve. Those sharing their time and talents this month were: cooks, Bob & Anita Frase with helpers, Reah Lunter and Dorothy Gillman. The homemade soup was delicious. Other workers were: Ed & Pat Seiler, Marilyn Hofacre, the Darren Blough family, Scott & Mark Turnbow, Wilma Baker and Pastor Chuck.

Needs for February, March & April are 80 toothbrushes and toothpaste, toilet paper and donations of money for laundry detergent. Mark can get the soap at a low price. Cooks for the supper for our clients and workers are needed for February, March & April. Let Lynn Turnbow know if you are available. As we always ask - could you volunteer next month? You are needed!

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### **PRESCHOOL**



February will be a busy month for Preschool. The Akron Zoo will be bringing three animals for the children to see. The program is called, "Fur, Feathers & Scales". A dental hygienist from Wadsworth Family Dentistry will be talking to the children about taking care of their teeth. We will be celebrating Valentine's Day with a party. The entertainment for the party will be our own Sally Schwab.

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### **YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

The Y.F. will be meeting on January 29th at the church with leader, Connie Baillis.

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### **TRUSTEES UPDATE**

Thanks to Trustee Mark Turnbow, the sanctuary and social hall sound systems now have a wireless connection. This means that our wireless mikes, like Pastor Chuck's, can be used in the social hall and feed through it's sound system... Thanks Mark!

We've been having problems with air in the heating system. Twice recently the social hall zone has been completely air locked, meaning no heat in the registers. Trustee's phone numbers are posted on the kitchen refrigerator. Please call if you observe a problem.

Good news... The Trustees have received a substantial donation to the Building & Improvement Fund designated for sanctuary air conditioning. Trustees are beginning to discuss how to do it without compromising the beauty of our sanctuary. We plan to visit other churches with A/C and begin evaluating our options. We'll keep you informed as plans progress.

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### Our Church Leadership Team

Lay Leader: Lisa Winchell  
Administrative Council Chair: Lee Winchell  
Trustee Chair: Chad Gasser  
Finance Chair: Andy Baillis  
Church Treasurer: Bill Ullman  
Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations: Dave Berg  
Mission Committee Chair: Sandy Gasser  
Food Pantry Coord.: Lynn & Mark Turnbow  
Worship Chair: Judy Britton  
Choir Dir.: Betty Winchell  
Praise Band Dir.: Dave Berg  
Organist: Sandy Batson

Usher Coord.: Dale Stahl  
Communion Stewards: Dick & Dorothy Gillman  
Education Chair: Rachel Hostetler  
Preschool Chair: Betty Winchell  
Preschool Dir.: Kathy Berg  
Preschool Treas.: Linda Kaliszewski  
UMW Pres.: Pat Seiler  
Hospitality: Robin Ryland, Dana Dysinger, Nancy McMillan  
Newsletter Editor: Sheila Stoll  
Quilting Group: Deb Thompson  
Youth Fellowship: Connie Baillis

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### JOY'S OF GOD'S FAMILY AND THEIR FRIENDS:

Jaxson Lee Seiler was born December 21, 2011 to Cory Seiler & Brooke Rowe of Rittman. He was 6lbs. 6oz. and 18"long. Grandparents are Matt & Mickey Seiler and great-grandparents are Ed & Pat Seiler.

Jaxson Scott Hopton was born on January 17, 2012 to Scott and Rachele Hopton from Clyde, Ohio. Grandfather is Michael Hopton and great-grandparents are Bob & Irene Hopton.

Grace Madeline Clay was born on January 22, 2012 to Ryan & Carolyn Clay of Newark, Ohio. She joins her 2 year old brother, David. Grandparents are David & Julie Clay and great-grandparents are Harold & Anne Salyer.

George & Pauline's grandson improving

Mary Winkler's son, Fred is engaged

Sandy B. passed test

Lee Winchell's 60th birthday

Cory Seiler's graduation from Police Academy & job as an Orrville Police Officer

Baby Chaia Thompson home from hospital

Gillman's grandson, John - high school honor

### PRAYERS NEEDED:

Irene

Betty

Bob

Harry

Marsha

Reah

Ursalla - grandmother of Debbie A. & Sandy G.

Beth Holland Steiner's father, Guy, passed away

Dick & Eleanor Winkler family - son, Brad, passed away

Audrey Winchell & family in the death of Mary Jane Massie



Jennie Cain passed away - pray for her family

Ruth Baker & her family - son, Kenneth, passed away

Preschool boy

Nancy McMillan's mother

Nancy Britton's family member, Cody

Ruthanne's friend, Nancy

Bruce's cousin

Sandy's cousin, Barbara

Dave's friend

Duane

### There is time to send a Valentine to our friends at the nursing homes:

Virginia Bigler - Autumnwood Care Center

Wanda Fawcett - Apostolic Home

Charles Massie - Autumnwood Care Center

Dorothy DeMass - Canton Christian Home

Carl Schwab - Autumnwood Care Center

Marcy Taylor - Autumnwood Care Center

Autumnwood Care Center, 275 E. Sunset Dr., Rittman, OH 44270

Apostolic Christian Home, 10680 Steiner Rd., Rittman, OH 44270

Canton Christian Home, 2550 Cleveland Ave. NW, Canton, OH 44709

# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



## -UMW DATES-

### February 7

9:30am Beth Circle

### February 21

7:00pm Executive Committee

### **Hannah Circle**

Hannah Circle met at the church on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 with eight members present. Anne Salyer was acting leader due to Pat's absence.

Devotions were given by Ruth Baker where she read "Really Living" - Philippians 1:21 and "Waiting For The Updraft" - Psalms 37:7, followed by prayer.

Minutes were read and approved. Pauline Rastorfer gave the treasurer's report. The offering was taken.

Anne Salyer read a short story from "Help Lord, I'm Having Senior Moments" - Psalms 4:8.

We all read the Purpose of United Methodist Women. Jan Wagner read "Heifer Haiti in the Aftermath" for our multi-cultural moment.

We still need program leaders for the coming year. We had a very successful Cookie Walk this year - we made \$753.50. A big "thank you" to all who helped make it a success.

March 4th will be our annual Bean Luncheon which will be held after church. February 6th will be our next meeting with Anne Salyer as the leader and Ruth Baker the hostess.

Elaine Fetter had the program which was "Late-Night Good News" from Max Lucado's book "When God Whispers Your Name". Several members participated.

Jan Wagner served delicious refreshments.

Elaine Fetter  
Secretary

## February Birthdays



2nd	Leonard Copley
3rd	Shirley Youmans
4th	Brian Baker
5th	Andrew Berg
6th	Martha Baillis Mike Hopton
8th	Brianne Booth
9th	Keely Dreher
10th	Drew Crawford
11th	Ben Britton
13th	Stephen Breckner Chuck Long Kim Rastorfer
15th	Rod Thompson
16th	Paula Barnes Jerri Champlin
17th	Sharon Chipp
20th	Vicki Hartlaub Alberta Skraba
22nd	Dick Gillman Dustin Griffin
23rd	Chuck Champlin Mary Winkler
24th	Brenda Cook

### **Celebrating** *An Anniversary This Month*

20th Mel & Sharon Chipp

*The United Methodist Women invite you to the **Annual Self-Denial Bean Luncheon** on March 4, 2012 immediately following the 11am Worship Service. A donation will be taken at the door.*

*Menu:*

*Homemade Bean Soup*

*Hot Dogs*

*Corn Bread*

*Fruit Salad*

## **Mary's Meanderings**

February is a reminder of love with the celebration of Valentine's Day. Remembering 1 Corinthians 13 or reading it, maybe in *The Message, The New Testament in Contemporary Language* by Eugene H. Peterson is always a good reminder that love should be the motivation for everything we do. His interpretation says that no matter what we say, believe or do, we are bankrupt without love.

I think many times we think of love as mushy. But that's not the way St. Paul looks at it. He says it's never giving up, caring for others more than ourselves, not envying or strutting, not having a swelled head or putting ourselves before others. I heard a good sermon last weekend on anger and how our day can become so full of it that it spills over on family when we get home. *The Message* says we are not to fly off the handle. We shouldn't "keep score" in our relationships with others. Isn't that what forgiveness is all about?

St. Paul encourages us to take pleasure in the truth, trusting God and looking for the best in others. All of our gifts, to be thoughtfully used, will one day be gone but faith, hope and love will remain. And as Paul says the greatest of these is love or as Eugene Peterson encourages us, "Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly". A tall order for any of us!

Mary Winkler

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## **Have A Laugh**

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him in front of the service station. Finally the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business".

Are we waiting too long to tell a friend?

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The Christmas decorations have been packed away for another year. People (elves) stayed after church (11am service) one Sunday in January and got the job done. Special elves came later and climbed the ladders and put boxes in the storage cupboards in the social hall. Elves included: Ed & Pat Seiler, Dick & Dorothy Gillman, Rod & Judy Britton, Laura & Brenda Cook, Chuck & Linda Kaliszewski, Mark & Lynn Turnbow, Spencer Stoll, Isaiah Browne & their grandma. Dave Berg took care of the Christmas Tree and Duane Ryland & Bob Hopton put away the Nativity set.

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*When you reach the end of your rope, you will find the hem  
of His garment.*

**Rittman United Methodist Church**  
211 North Metzger Avenue  
Rittman, OH 44270

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[www.rittmanumc.org](http://www.rittmanumc.org)  
office@rittmanumc.org

Prayer Connexion @ 8:00am  
**Contemporary Worship @ 9:00am**  
Sunday School @ 10:00am  
**Traditional Worship @ 11:00am**

**Living Our Faith Through Word and Action**



***When Winter Comes***

*When Winter comes and cloaks the land,  
She holds snow crystals in her hand.  
She fashions trees in fleecy white  
And icicles the eaves at night.*

*When Winter comes and snowflakes fly  
Like dancing diamonds from the sky,  
She coats my windowpane in lace  
Where old Jack Frost has kissed her face.*

*When Winter comes and north winds blow,  
They drift the mounds of sculptured snow.  
And I, asleep in ermine arms,  
Dream of Winter's wondrous charms.*

*--Nora M. Bozeman*