



Connections

“The making of new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

First UMC Bethany

March 2014

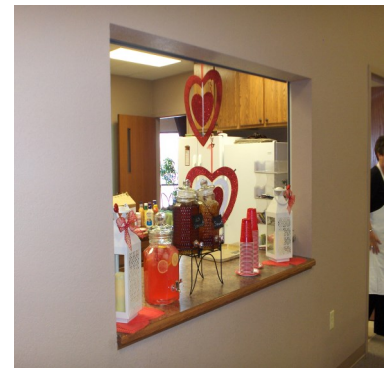
Delightful and Decadent Desserts

The tables were beautifully decorated with red hearts, candy kisses and candles. The dessert tables were beautifully “decorated” with the most amazing, delicious desserts! We had a wonderful dinner together with lots of great conversation and laughter. Then the best part of all...tasting all of those wonderful desserts, two tables full!

We had the opportunity to guess the number of Hershey’s kisses in a jar and Jeanie Beermann guessed correctly with Leah Johnson a close second. Then 6 brave souls, 3 couples, took the challenge of First UMC’s version of the Newlywed Game. They answered lots of questions and answered many of them correctly for their spouses. There was lots of laughter and we learned a lot about Bob and Doris Harryman, Roger and Sarah Claycomb and Sean and Jenny Hammond. Roger and Sarah had the most correct answers and received 2 bags of conversation hearts. It was overheard that those might lead to more conversation!



We thank everyone who joined us for our first Delightful and Decadent Desserts and Dinner. It was a great evening on a cold February night with lots of smiles and sharing. We are so grateful to be part of a church family that celebrates God in so many ways, even delightful desserts!



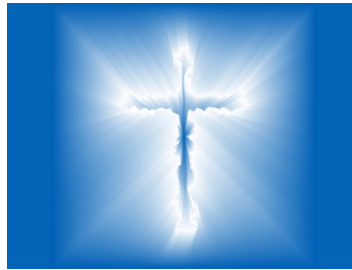
Our Lenten Journey with Jesus



The season of Lent is a time to walk with Jesus during His earthly ministry all the way to the cross of Good Friday. This 6 week journey is not an easy one for us, but as we follow in His footsteps we learn more about what it means to offer ourselves to God. Our Ash Wednesday worship service on March 5 at 7:00 p.m. begins this Lenten journey as we receive the ashes and think about our own lives as followers of Christ Jesus. This quiet service reminds us that we are God's, always have been and always will be.

We then continue our journey throughout March remembering that Jesus gave Himself for us. How do we give ourselves to Him? Lent is often thought of as a time to give something up, our sacrifice to the One who gave His all for us. But it isn't easy for us to give up anything. Perhaps we can think of it as offering, a gift to God. It might be spending a few minutes with God before you turn on the TV or computer. Or spending some time with God as you walk in creation. What gift can you give God from now until Easter? Then you might just have a new holy habit and our offering continues for a long, long time. God yearns for us to come closer, one step at a time.

During this Lenten season, may you feel God's presence in a powerful way as you follow the One



who will never let you go...

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 3** Grocery Box Ministry 9:30 am
- March 5** Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm
- March 12** JAM 3:30-5:00 pm
- March 12** Church Council 6:30 pm
- March 16** Full Breakfast 8:30 am-9:15am
- March 19** Mary Martha Circle 9:30am
- March 31** Grocery Box

Canned Fruit Challenge for March

The Food Pantry is in need of canned fruit. Let's help the Food Pantry stock their shelves! How about bringing a can each week and by the end of March who knows how much fruit we will have for them?

PRAYER CONCERNS



Family of Jane McFeeters
Lois Smith-Health concerns
Judy Schell-Serious health concerns
Dan & Ann Barnett-Health concerns
Jeff Wagner-Continued health concerns
Nadine Watts-Continued health concerns
Brooke Dahl-Continued health concerns
Nolan Landes-Trace Graham's grandpa-Health Concerns

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 am *Worship*
10:40 am *Sunday School*

March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School	3 Grocery Box 9:30am	4 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl 5:00pm Choir	5 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm	6 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles	7 Catholic Church Fish Fry 5:00-7:00 pm	8
9 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School	10	11 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl 5:00 Choir	12 3:30-5:00 JAM	13 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles	14 Catholic Church Fish Fry 5:00-7:00 pm	15
16 Full Breakfast 8:30-9:15am 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School	17	18 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl 5:00 Choir	19 9:30 Mary Martha Circle 6:30 Church Council Meeting	20 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles	21 Catholic Church Fish Fry 5:00-7:00 pm	22
23/30 9:30 Worship 10:40 Sunday School	24/31	25 9:00 Prayer Team 9:30 Prayer Shawl 5:00 Choir	26	27 9:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Singles	28 Catholic Church Fish Fry 5:00-7:00 pm	29

Birthdays

March 1 Rand Slama	March 8 Terry Wagler	March 24 Phill Martz
March 1 Adreanna Gard	March 12 Joe Rongey	March 24 Maycee Ragan
March 3 Lowell Littrell	March 13 Tiara Pettijohn	March 27 Jeff Wagner
March 5 Owen Giles	March 14 Isabella Woodring	March 30 Linda Vandivert
March 6 Betsy Friesz	March 14 Charles Hillyard	March 31 Janice Rose
March 7 Lynda Foster	March 16 Dean Jamis	March 31 Kenny Roberts
March 7 Amy Ragan	March 23 Fred Flesher	



The Gift

United Methodist Church

Bethany Missouri

2703 Crestview Road
Bethany, MO 64424
660-425-3570

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Dear Prayer Shawl Group,

Brenda and I thank your for the Prayer Shawl we received this past week. It was a wonderful surprise. I assumed there would be a few issues I would need to get my arms around when I returned to HCCH. But, as always, I knew my staff would have already begun to resolve them which made my job easier.

Then we received the prayer shawl and I wondered, "Oh, oh!" Is there something I didn't know about? Apparently there isn't but we have the shawl to help us through any difficulty.

Brenda has been very supportive and comforting with this divergence from my "retired" life which I have well appreciated. Thank you for this gift to us. Best wishes to the Bethany United Methodist Church.

Rich and Brenda Hamilton

Dear Church Family,

We would like to say a special thank you to our church family for all the cards, telephone calls and prayers during my illness and recovery. It has meant the world to us.

In Christian Love,
Marilyn and Dean Jamis

Radio Ministry Sponsors

- Feb 2 - Ron & Christine Hunt
- Feb 9 - Rand & Jane Slama -In Memory of Dorothy Goodrich
- Feb 16 - Debbie Chambers - In memory of Paul & Lena Sims
- Feb 23 -Fordyce Family -in Memory of Thelma Sanders

ATTENDANCE - SUNDAY SERVICE

February 2 -79	February 16-112
February 9 -84	February 23-

Thank you to all of our radio sponsors throughout the year for being a part of this important ministry! Please contact the office with any special radio ministry Sundays that you would like to sponsor for 2014.