



Franklin First
United Methodist
Church

107 North College Street,
Franklin, KY 42134

February, 2010



Kudos to
Fannie, a
Pawsitive
Force in Our
Community



BOWLING'S ALLEY

We all have pet names for our children—especially when they are young. My sobriquet for Sydney is usually just “My Princess.” One day, however, I employed the oft used “angel” (ie, my darling, my jewel, my treasure). I said to her before school: “*You are my angel.*” Wesley was standing next to her, so I added: “*And ‘Bubby’ (her own designation for her brother) is my other angel.*” With a stern look she replied emphatically: “*No he’s not! He’s no angel—he’s a boy!*”

Lisa has reminded me for 8 years that not everything the children say is cute. I will acknowledge her observation; however, I think Syd spoke some truth that she, as of yet, is unaware. Sydney’s words were innocent, yet I’ve noticed this disturbing trend for a number of years now and I believe it needs to be addressed. In Syd’s little mind she has an image of an “angel.” Perhaps it is a feminine image. Perhaps she envisions a fairy-like creature; a sprite perhaps. Regardless: a boy (any boy) does not fit into that image—so she rejected even the very idea of her brother being my “angel.”

I have observed in recent years that many of us good, God-fearing, Christian, law abiding people have pigeon-holed what it means for *another* to be a Christian, a true disciple of Jesus, an American, a good person; one worthy to work or serve along side

of us on the job or in our community. The Internet is full of tremendous resources...and it is also full of misinformation and a venue for people to propagate hate-speech (even often in the guise of “authentic” citizenship/patriotism or “righteous” Christian faithfulness). Now, of course, I’m not suggesting that we shouldn’t have opinions on the topics of the day. But an opinion is “an idea that is believed to be true or valid *without* positive knowledge” (Merriam-Webster Dictionary). Beyond opinions we must seek truth and make informed decisions. *That* is what should shape our values—not mere opinions. Just think, less than 100 years ago women could not vote in this country and African-Americans were denied many equal rights ... because many had the *opinion* that their “worth” was less than white men.

Consider: much of the email we all receive are “forwards” (proclaiming “this” about the Muslims, “that” about a supposed bill before Congress, “so and so” said something controversial or a TV show or a movie is going to do something to further “push the boundaries” of a particular issue). And guess what? Most of the time what we receive is *incorrect* information. In addition to that, so much is “anti” speech. Whether it be about the Constitution, Muslims, conservative or liberal Christians (or pastors), the President (this one or the last), Hispanics, homosexuals, the tattooed and pierced...pick the topic, person, racial/ethnic group—no one or thing is omitted (save for middle class white people—I don’t hear or read much negative about that group. Go figure.).

Quite frankly, I’m becoming more and more troubled by it all. Jesus said to “know the Truth and the Truth will set you free,” (John 8:32) but friends: the Truth isn’t in much of what we read on the Internet or contained in much of the reporting of the entertainment programs we watch billed as “news.”

However, I’ve been more frustrated with those of us who proclaim we belong to The Way of Jesus Christ. For example: I’ve been intrigued in recent years when denominations debate whether or not the Bible is infallible...and then go home and pay it no mind anyway. Look at our propensity toward violence, reckless behavior, sexual promiscuity! Read the Sermon on the Mount! Jesus has some strong words about those things. One step further: he has some strong words about love and forgiveness (especially regarding those who are not like us). I believe those are good words for us, words to live by. Not always easy (and I’ll be the first to admit that), but important on our journey of discipleship. Indeed: we must seek to convey the goodness, grace, and mercy of God in all we do and through all we are—for His glory.

Your pastor and friend,

—J ohn

FYI: **Just to clear things up. Sydney may “my Princess,” but rest assured—your pastor’s wife is “The Queen.”**

To catch you up on the goings' on in KIC and KICjr

- made Christmas crosses for the residents of Medco
- collected 29 bags of diapers and delivered to Good Samaritan, stopping to sing a few carols at the County Clerk's office.
- had our own party back at church where we made one dimensional ginger bread houses to take home.....have you seen the photos of these beautiful and creative projects hanging in the CLC hall?



• The sweet ladies and their dogs from "Pawsitive Reading Partners" welcomed us back from Christmas vacation with their visits. The 'dog days' are always a favorite time of the year for all of us !

- Now we are busy making small Valentine gifts for Medco, New Haven, and Lewis Home and learning songs to sing when we deliver our gifts and visit with the residents of New Haven and Lewis Home on Feb 8th and 9th.



Becos con Bendiciones Scholarships for Honduras Children

Thank you to everybody who gave to this year's appeal for Becos con Bendiciones. This year contributions totaled just below \$2000 and that should allow us to again increase the number of children in Honduras whose education we can support for another year.



➔ February 14—District Youth Event—2:30—7:30 pm—Christ UMC
Kentucky Wesleyan College students will lead worship and share testimonies. 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament to follow

➔ February 19-20 : Ski Trip
Perfect North, Indiana



➔ February 28—Guest Speaker—Carrie Cook - 5:30 pm



➔ March 5—Youth Lock-in—8:00pm — 8:00 am

➔ March 7—No youth Sunday Evening. Rest & Recoup from Lock-in

➔ March 8—15—Sarah gone to Costa Rica

➔ March 14—John leads youth 5:30—7pm

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Come and See ...

... the beautiful NEW bathrooms (upstairs and downstairs) in the education wing, primarily a children & youth wing. The old bathrooms were quite out-dated and unsatisfactory. Be sure and thank the Trustees for this important decision to upgrade our church facilities.



Life Size Candy Land Sunday, March 21, 5:00 pm

Candy Land is an experience for parents and kids to leap into a sweet family adventure. It is just as it sounds. A life size candy land game board will fill the CLC as participants maneuver their way to the candy castle!



2010 Vacation Bible School

Getting in Touch With the Pastor

People sometimes hesitate to contact me at home. I appreciate your respect for my time, but I am your pastor and if you need me, you need me.

During the day I have my cell phone with me, yet it may be turned off if I am in a meeting or not work if I am traveling. In the evenings, I usually turn my cell phone off...because I am at home and have a home phone! Please do not hesitate to call me at home (586-3754)! Some folks have been reluctant to do that, but I do not find it intrusive at all—it's the nature of ministry! I know not everyone can make calls or meet in the day and the evening is the only time you have to speak with me.

—J ohn

Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday, **February 17th** at **6:30pm** we will gather in the sanctuary for a time of worship as we prepare for the season of Lent. Worship will include the centuries old practice of the imposition of ashes upon the forehead. **Plan to come and eat at 5:30 in the CLC. Make sure you make your reservation for the meal.**

UMW YARD SALE

Saturday, May 1

The United Methodist Women would love to take all your unwanted "treasures" off your hands. We're planning a YARD SALE to raise needed funds for a variety of local and statewide missions that benefit women and children. Please think of us when you are sorting through your treasures and when you are doing your Spring house cleaning. We really need your help to make this project a success. You may bring your items to the CLC the week of April 26. Thank-you.

Response to the Haiti Crisis

Michael Watts, KY Conference Treasurer, reported Saturday that during the first week of need, KY United Methodists gave over **\$101,000 to UMCOR** for relief work in Haiti. That is a fantastic response to a tremendous need.

Donna Aros (BG District Disaster Response Coordinator) has connected with the Elizabethtown District and others for the collection and delivery of **health kits** to the Sager Brown Center in Mississippi. Addington Transport has provided a loading dock and semi-trailer for these items which will be delivered around February 12. You can drop off health kits at the District Office or contact Donna for other arrangements.

Beth Moore Simulcast Event

Saturday, April 24, 2010

Live Via Satellite on CCN, at First Baptist 9 a.m. to 3 p.m..

Lunch and Childcare provided. Tickets \$10 may be purchased at Church. The live simulcast is titled **"So Long, Insecurity"**.

Beth Moore is coming to women across North America live via satellite on April 24 with a new message that will set us free from our insecurities! In her engaging "speaking right to you" style, Beth will once again bring a transforming message to women. The message is this: We don't have to be slaves to our insecurities!" We can conquer fear and doubt and discover the liberating confidence and security that is found in Christ.

Memorials

In Memory of Mr. Bill Rosdeutscher

Mr & Mrs Jim Arnold
 Mr & Mrs Rick Pike
 Mr & Mrs Jacky Wilson
 Mr & Mrs Gary Broady
 Judy Burr
 Ellen Ferguson
 Martha Garrett

In Honor of Mrs. Berda Hall's 95th Birthday

Forum Sunday School Class
 Mr & Mrs John Rash

In Memory of Mr. Bill Booker

Mr & Mrs Jacky Wilson

In Memory of Mrs. Mattie Mae Rhea

Mr & Mrs Jacky Wilson
 Ellen Ferguson

In Memory of Mr. Jim Link

Mr & Mrs Bud Ferguson
 Judy Burr
 Ellen Ferguson
 Mr & Mrs Maxwell Link

In Memory of Mrs. Fern Clark

Judy Burr

In Memory of Mrs. Mary Garrett

Judy Burr

In Memory of Blake Ballard Thurman

Judy Burr

In Memory of Mrs. Phyllis Dill

Mrs. Margaret Welch
 Mrs. Jane Minnicks

In Memory of Mrs. Dorothy Bowling

Mrs. Margaret Welch
 Mrs. Jane Minnicks

In Memory of Mrs. Evora Hill

Mrs. Margaret Welch
 Mrs. Jane Minnicks


In Honor of Mrs. Marie Kennedy

Mrs. Margaret Welch
 Mrs. Jane Minnicks

In Honor of Mrs. Betty Davidson, Mrs. Ann DeLong, Mr. David Coots

Our Christian Sympathy & Love to ...

Mr. Danny Gregory and family in the death of his sister, **Mrs. Judith Starr Coursey.**



Manna Meals Are Ready to be Delivered!

Do not hesitate to call if ...
 ~ You could really use a meal for yourself.
 ~ You know someone that could use a meal.

We have plenty of food stocked up, ready to deliver, so feel free to remember someone you care about. Someone can get a meal just to be given a break and shown an act of love. So, whatever the reason, feel free to call and show an act of kindness. Let's keep paying it forward!

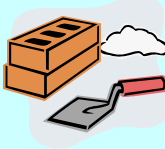
Debbie Donaldson (H)
270.586.6742 (Cell) 270-776-6702

Email debbiedonaldson04@comcast.net

Sidewalk Brick

If you would like to purchase a sidewalk brick to be placed in front of the church in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact the church office. The cost is \$50 per brick. When we receive at least 10 bricks orders, we can have the brick made and displayed.

Please call the church office (586-5152) for more information.



“Have a Heart For Seniors” Offering Sunday, February 28



We have three “Retirement Communities” within the confines of the Kentucky Annual Conference: Wesley Manor (Louisville), Wesley Village (Wilmore), and the Lewis Memorial Home right here in Franklin. For about a decade we have received an annual “special” offering to support the benevolent care needs of those in these facilities who have literally outlived their financial resources. Obviously, one of those facilities is in our own back yard and has strong ties with our congregation: The Lewis Memorial Home. Your participation in this offering is appreciated. No amount is too large or too small.

The “Have a Heart For Seniors” offering is **Sunday, February 28th**. Questions about the Lewis Home? Visit their website (www.lewismemoiral.org) or talk to the Chairperson of the Lewis Home: Wallace Herndon

**Franklin First
United Methodist Church**

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Franklin, KY 42134**

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Senior Potluck Lunch
Monday, February 8
Noon
Everyone Welcome

Lewis Home has a new website :
www.lewis Memorial.org
We invite you to take a look at all
the pictures.

February, 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 KIC (grades 4,5) meets each Monday, 3:15	2 KICjr (grades 1-3) meets each Tuesday, 3:15	3	4 Patsy Lane's Birthday	5 Susan Layne's Birthday	6
7 SOUPER Bowl Sunday	8 Senior Pot Luck Lunch—noon	9	10	11 Staff Parish Meeting 7:30 pm	12	13
14 Youth District Event at Christ UMC	15	16	17 Ash Wednesday 6:30 pm	18	19	20 Ski Trip Begins
21 First Sunday in Lent	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 						