

KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>From the Pastor</i>	1
<i>Birthdays & Anniversaries</i>	3
<i>Bible Crossword</i>	2
<i>Why Black History Month?</i>	3

Special Points Of Interest:

- ASL Practice with Darlene Koontz on February 3rd & 17th at the Lauer's at 7PM.
- The Deaf Church Social will be at Mo's Restaurant on February 7th at 5:30PM.
- A Potluck Lunch for the deaf church is after the 9:30AM worship service on February 9th.
- On Saturday February 15th, UMM will host breakfast at 7:30AM – 11AM.
- A combined service will be held for the hearing & deaf church on February 16th at 10:30AM.

Major Holidays:

February 14th

Valentines Day



February 17th

Washington's Birthday

(a.k.a. President's Day)



John Wesley's Home In London, England

By Leo Yates, Jr.



Pastor Leo in London.

Last November I had the opportunity to go to London, England. Being the true Methodist I am, I went to visit John Wesley's home. John Wesley is the founder of The United Methodist Church. My trip to Mr. Wesley's home opened my eyes to how fortunate we are to have a church founder such as John Wesley.

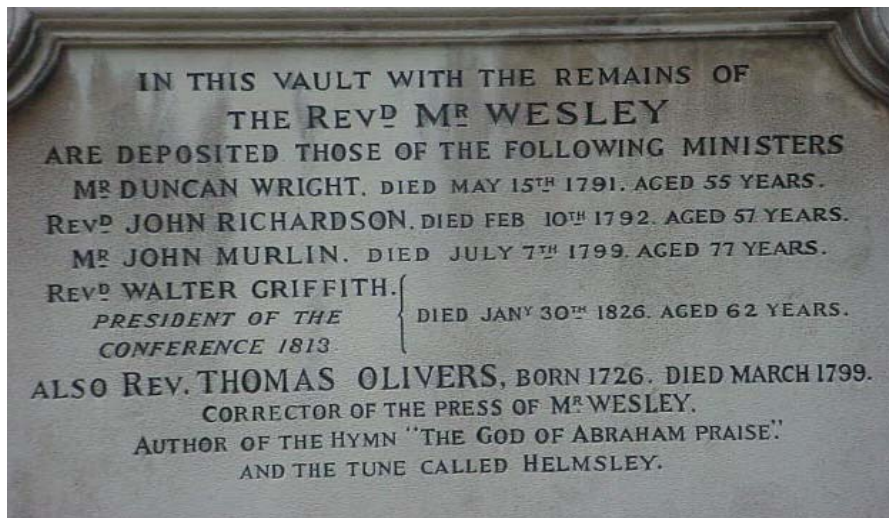
John Wesley's Home.



This is the plot that holds John Wesley's remains.



A better look at the above picture of John Wesley's plot.



PRAYERS FOR SAFETY

(church humor)

A nearsighted minister glanced at the note that Mrs. Jones had sent to him by an usher. The note read: "Bill Jones having gone to sea, his wife desires the prayers of the congregation for his safety." Failing to observe the punctuation, he startled his audience by announcing: "Bill Jones, having gone to see his wife, desires the prayers of the congregation for his safety."

The Bible Describes Hell

The following article is something I, Leo Yates, Jr., came across in my daily devotions. It is something for us to think about. We are fortunate that we have entrusted our souls to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Here is the article

There are three words translated "Hell" in Scripture: The place of punishment (Matthew 5:22,29; 10:28; and James 3:6) The residence of the dead (Matthew 11:23; 16:18; Luke 16:23; Acts 2:27) The grave (Psalm 9:17; 16:10)

There are those who accept that Hell is a place of punishment, but believe that the punishment is to be stop—to stop an awake existence. They can't conceive that the punishment of the wicked will be aware and eternal. If they are correct, then a man like Adolph Hitler, who was responsible for the deaths of millions, is being "punished" merely with eternal sleep. His fate is simply to return to the non-existent state he was in before he was born, where he doesn't even know that he is being punished.

However, Scripture paints a different story. The rich man who found himself in Hell (Luke 16:19-31) was conscious (awake). He was able to feel pain, to thirst, and to experience regret. He wasn't asleep in the grave; he was in a place of "suffering." Jesus said that if your hand, foot, or eye causes you to sin, it would be better to remove it than to "go into Hell, into the fire that never shall be stopped. (Mark 9:43-48).

The Bible refers to the punished of the unsaved with such fearful words as the following:

"Shame and everlasting contempt" (Daniel 12:2)

"Everlasting punishment" (Matthew 25:46)

"Weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 24:51)

"Fire that doesn't stop" (Luke 3:17)

"Resentment and anger, tribulation and anguish" (Romans 2:8,9)

"Everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord" (2 Thessalonians 1:9)

"Eternal fire...the blackness of darkness for ever" (Jude 7,13)

Revelation 14:10,11 tells us the final, eternal destiny of the sinner: "He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone...the smoke of their torment ascended up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day or night."

Provided by www.livingwaters.com/good/022.htm#mk94348

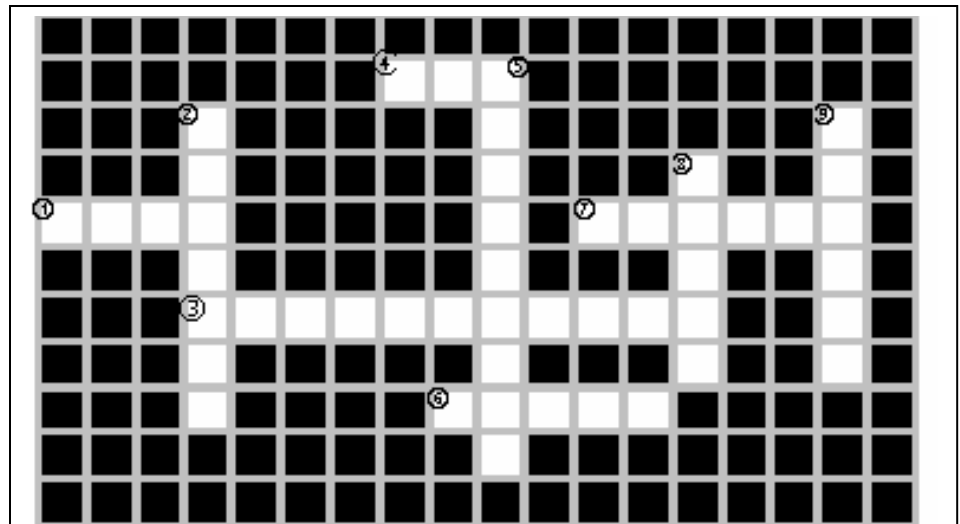
THE MEMORIAL

(more church humor)

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex was staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and small American flags were mounted on either side of it.

The seven-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the boy, and said quietly, "Good morning Alex." "Good morning pastor," replied the young man, still focused on the plaque.

"Pastor McGhee, what is this?" Alex asked. "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service." Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9:00 o'clock or the 11:00 o'clock?"



- 1- Apostle to Rome
- 2- "Washed Up" man
- 3- Last Battle
- 4- Long Sufferer
- 5- Joseph's town

- 6- First Methodist
- 7- 2nd book of Old Testament
- 8- "High" Sermon
- 9- Silent P starts this book

Provided by The CHRISTIAN WEB DIGEST

ANSWERS

- 1. Paul 2. Pilate 3. Armageddon 4. Job 5. Bethlehem 6. Wesley
- 7. Exodus 8. Mount 9. Psalms



Birthdays & Anniversaries

FEBRUARY

4th Richard Fields
(Birthday)

18th Kathy Johnson
(Birthday)

19th Ed & Flo Johnson
(Anniversary)

21st Max Pyles
(Birthday)

22nd Carolyn Pyles
(Birthday)

22nd John Johnson, Sr.
(Birthday)

23rd Dick Robinson
(Birthday)

24th Jim & Ruth Vavari
(Anniversary)

27th Nina Gilbert
(Birthday)

28th Dick & Dolores Robinson
(Anniversary)

A History of Black History Month

by Elissa Haney

Woodson chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly impacted the American black population, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. However, February has much more than Douglass and Lincoln to show for its significance in black American history. For example:

*** February 23, 1868:**

W. E. B. DuBois, important civil rights leader and co-founder of the NAACP, was born.

*** February 3, 1870:**

The 15th Amendment was passed, granting blacks the right to vote.

*** February 25, 1870:**

The first black U.S. senator, Hiram R. Revels (1822-1901), took his oath of office.

*** February 12, 1909:**

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded by a group of concerned black and white citizens in New York City.

*** February 1, 1960:**

In what would become a civil-rights movement milestone, a group of black Greensboro, N.C., college students began a sit-in at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter.

*** February 21, 1965:**

Malcolm X, the militant leader who promoted Black

United Methodists to participate in peace mission to Iraq

Dec. 19, 2002 News media contact: Joretta Purdue • (202) 546-8722 • Washington

WASHINGTON (UMNS) – Four United Methodists will go to Iraq shortly after Christmas on an ecumenical peace mission coordinated by the U.S. National Council of Churches and hosted by the Middle East Council of Churches.

Thirteen participants are slated to leave Dec. 27 and return Jan. 3.

The Rev. Robert Edgar, chief executive of the NCC and a United Methodist clergyman, will lead the group. The delegation's goal is to illustrate the impacts of war through the human faces of women and children in Iraq.

"We have seen plenty of pictures of Saddam Hussein holding up a rifle," Edgar said. "I want the American public to see the people of Iraq who will be most affected by war – especially the children."

The group does not intend to meet with any high officials in the Iraq government, participants have noted. They do plan to meet with religious leaders to discuss the ongoing threat of war, and with organizations and groups working for reconciliation, peace and justice, and the promotion and protection of human rights.

Group members will seek to better understand the ways in which churches in the United States and the Middle East, including Iraq, can work together to strengthen the response to the now 20-year humanitarian crisis in Iraq.

Bishop Melvin G. Talbert, ecumenical officer for the United Methodist Council of Bishops, said one goal of the trip will be to offer pastoral support and express solidarity with Christians

A SHORT NOTE FROM PASTOR LEO

I wanted to share with everyone that I began my studies at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC on January 21st. My classes are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you need to reach me you can call my cell phone or my email me.

and other faith communities in
Iraq.

For the full article go to
<http://umns.umc.org/02/dec/592.htm>