

KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>From the Pastor</i>	1
<i>Biblical Crossword</i>	2
<i>United Methodist History</i>	2

Special Points Of Interest:

* **On Sun, March 2nd**, we will have a *special worship service at 9:30am*, titled: **"In The Face Of War."**



* **March 5th** is *Ash Wednesday*; a joint worship service is at 7pm.

* **On March 7th**, the deaf dinner social is at the I.H.O.P at 5:30pm.

* A Potluck lunch is after the 9:30am worship service on **March 9th**.

* **On March 10th**, there is a seminar on advocating for deaf people in The United Methodist Church. Meet at Christ Church in Baltimore at 8:15am to ride the bus to Washington, DC.

* The *Deaf United Methodist Women's Meeting* is at 7pm on **March 12th**. Contact Darlene Koontz for more information.

* Deaf Potluck, hosted by the Deaf United Methodist Women's group, is on **March 14th**. It begins at 5:30pm in the fellowship hall. There will be a short program from MD Relay.



* **On March 15th**, the hearing UMM will serve breakfast from 7:30 – 11am.

* **March 17** is *St. Patrick's Day*.

LAY MINISTRY

By Leo Yates, Jr.

The United Methodist Church is a church that works hand-in-hand with lay people. Lay people working with clergy are essential to effective ministry in the world.

At Magothy Deaf Church, the pastor, lay leaders and parishioners come together to represent our part of the body of Christ, by being active in the ministry of Jesus Christ.



Pastor Leo and Lay Leader Darlene Koontz



Pastor Leo and Lay Leader Joan Tucker

As the pastor of Magothy Deaf Church, I am particularly proud to be serving side by side with those who are active in ministering to our community.

Continued on page 3

Boy Scout Sunday

On February 9th, Magothy Deaf Church had a special worship service recognizing Boy Scout Sunday.

Every second Sunday of February, the United Methodist Church observes the importance of Scouting (Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts) and its effectiveness in its community, nation and the world.



A Boy Scout participating in the worship service

Former Assistant Scout Master, Leo Yates, Sr. shared his life long experience in the Boy Scouts, from first joining a Boy Scout troop during his upbringing at the VA School For The Deaf & Blind and concluding with his active participation in Troop 1249 in Bowie, MD. Mr. Yates demonstrated how both hearing and deaf scouts can come together and make a difference in the world.



Leo Yates, Sr.

Scout Sunday is observed so the congregation can recognize the Scouting Program, the Scouts, and their leaders as part of the church's ministry.



Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting that gets its name from the practice of sprinkling ashes over those engaging in the fast of Lent. Has anyone ever apologized to you by saying, "Let me put on my ashes and sackcloth..."? This is where that saying originated. Those wishing to receive the sacrament of penance were known as "penitents." They wore sackcloth and were required to remain apart from the Christian community until Maundy Thursday. This practice fell into disuse during the 8th, 9th and 10th centuries, when the beginning of Lent was symbolized by placing ashes on the heads of the entire congregation.

Continued on Page 3

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — FACTS & FIGURES

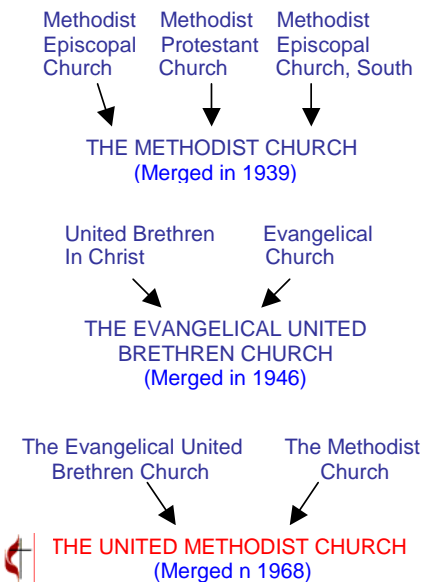
United Methodist History

John and Charles Wesley and a few other young men attending Oxford University met regularly in 1729 from intellectual and spiritual improvement and to help one another to become better Christians. So systematic (organized) were their habits of religious duty and their rule of conduct that other students referred to them as "Methodists." The word "United" now in our name comes from The Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Church, which united with The Methodist Church in 1968.

There are at least 19 Wesleyan denominations (different Protestant faiths) in the United States. Largest of these, with 8.7 million members, is The United Methodist Church. It ranks as the second largest Protestant denomination behind the Southern Baptists.

How Do United Methodists View Other Christian Churches?

The United Methodist Church strives (try) for Christian unity and cooperation. The Constitution of The United Methodist Church declares that "the Lord of the Church is calling Christians everywhere to strive toward unity...through relationships with other Methodist churches and united churches..., through councils of churches, and through plans of union with churches of Methodist or other denominational traditions." The United Methodist Church is a member of the Consultation on Church Union, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, the World Council of Churches, and the World Methodist Council.



Some Miscellaneous Facts about the Baltimore-Washington Conference:

- * The churches' collective budgets total more than \$99 million.
- * The conference is home to 1,008 United Methodist pastors:
 - * 282 are women
 - * 222 are African-American
 - * 29 are Asian
- * The conference partnership with United Methodists in Zimbabwe, including the support of Africa University, a United Methodist college there.
- * The conference center is in Columbia, Maryland, where more than 50 people work to equip local churches for mission and ministry.

- | | |
|---|--|
| DOWN
1. Gospels
2. Galilee
3. Devil
4. Eve
5. Dead Sea Scrolls
6. Moses
7. Adam
8. Herod
9. Sinai
10. Joseph | ACROSS
1c. ommandments
2. Heaven
3. Judas
4. Lucifer
5. love
6. David
7. Meek
8. Simon
9. Red Sea
10. Holy Land |
|---|--|

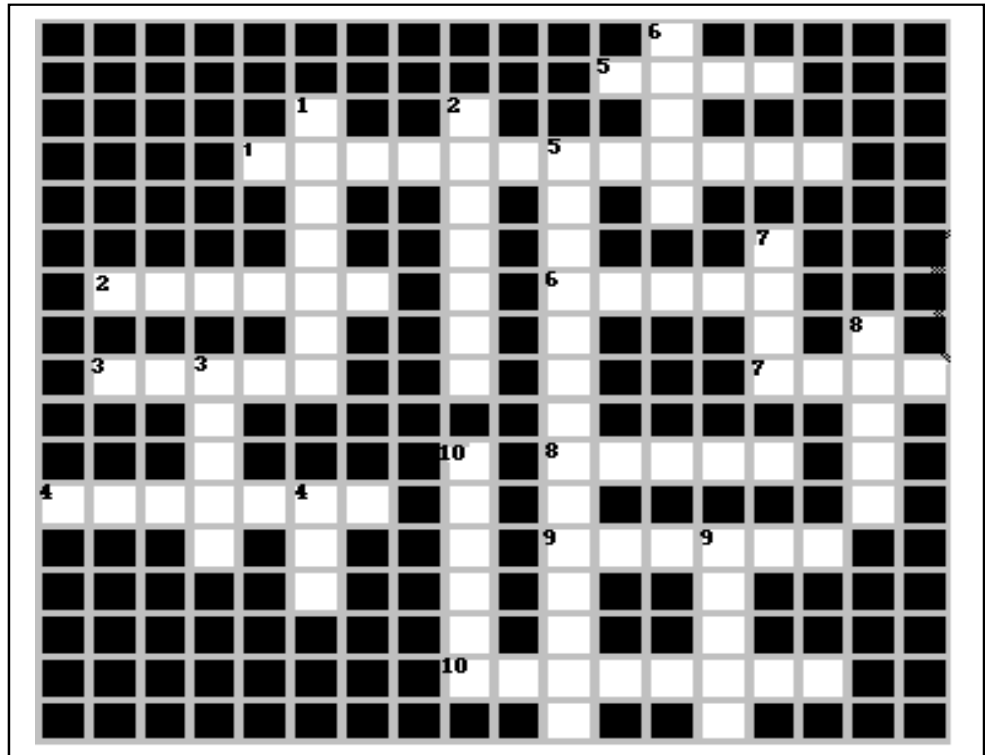
ANSWERS

ACROSS

1. "Thou Shall Not"
2. The Place Of Reward
3. Betrayed by HIM
4. 3 down means the same thing
5. The KEY
6. _____ and Goliath
7. The _____ shall inherit...
8. "The Promised Land"
9. "Exodus" Sea
10. 8 across is another name for it.

DOWN

1. The Four _____s
2. Sea in northern Israel
3. Fallen Angel
4. Abel's mother
5. B.C. Writings
6. _____ never made the "Promised Land"
7. Cain's father
8. New Testament Earthly King
9. Mount _____
10. Mary's spouse



CONTINUEUD from page 1 of Lay Ministry

There are different categories of ministries. Overall there are too many to list here, but listed below are just a few.

NUTRURING MINISTRY

The nurturing ministries of the congregation shall give attention to but not be limited to education, worship, Christian formation, membership care, small groups, and stewardship. Attention must be given to the needs of individuals and families of all ages.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The outreach ministries of the church shall give attention to local and larger community ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy. These ministries include church and society, global ministries, higher education and campus ministry, health and welfare, Christian unity and interreligious concerns, religion and race, and the status and role of women.

WITNESS MINISTRY

The witness ministries of the church shall give attention to developing and strengthening evangelistic efforts of sharing of personal and congregational stories of Christian experience, faith, and service; communication; lay speaking ministries; and other means that give expressions of witness for Jesus Christ.

Do not underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit, God promises us that we will be filled by the Holy Spirit to do God's work. To the right I have quoted a few scriptures to emphasize this. I, myself, fully believe that God will work through us, and because of this we will do great things.

Deaf United Methodist Women

Romans Chapter 12: verses 6-8: We have different gifts/talents according to the Grace given us. If a person's gift is prophesying let him/her use it in accordance with his/her faith. If it is serving, let him/her serve; if it is teaching, let him/her teach; if it is encouragement let him/her encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him/her give generously; if it is leadership, let him/her lead diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him/her do it cheerfully.

We had our first meeting as the "newly re-established Deaf UMW" on February 5th 2003.

Our officers are President: Darlene Koontz
Vice President: Laura Dreany
Secretary: Susie Moreland
Treasurer: Flo Johnson
Spiritual Growth: Sue Holiway

There were eleven women present from our church and community. The Lord has brought together a unique group of women; some are Catholic, Baptist, Lutheran and Methodist, all willing to share their gifts/talents for the Lord and people in need.

We all love the Lord and look forward to how He is going to direct our paths.

Listed are a few projects we are working on:

1. Painting our Pastor's office.
2. Fund Raiser Spaghetti Dinner/ for Ava; a special child to God and the family of God.
3. Hosting Monthly Dinners/ Deaf Friends and Friends/ 2nd Friday.

We meet the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 P.M. March is an exception we meet March 12th at 6:30 P.M. Everyone is welcome! It does not matter what denomination you are. We are all members of God's family. We pray God will use our gifts/talents for His Glory as we continue to grow and He will inspire others to come share their gifts/talents.

BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT...

John 14:26, Jesus said, "*The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*"

Acts 1:8 Jesus said, "*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*"

Acts 2:38, Peter replied, "*Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*"

Acts 4:31, After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



MARCH

- 1 Wayne & Barb Albrecht (Anniversary)
- 3 Steve & Darlene Koontz (Anniversary)
- 21 Mary Jane Allen (Birthday)
- 22 Leo Yates, Jr. (Birthday)
- 22 Sarah Yates (Birthday)
- 24 Hae Rin (Birthday)
- 25 Michael Vaveri (Birthday)



Ash Wednesday...continued from PG 1

Today, Christians have a cross put on their forehead in ashes. The ashes are usually made from the previous year's blessed palm fronds from Palm Sunday, and are usually wet with holy water before being used.

The name **Lent** comes from the Middle English *Lenten*, meaning, "spring." Lent signifies 40 days of fasting in order to imitate the fast of Jesus Christ after his baptism (the Epiphany). Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 46 days before Easter Sunday, when it ends.

The long view of this day is Jesus' passion and resurrection. This is the first day of preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Its connection to each of us and to the congregation as a whole is the baptismal covenant, which we anticipate renewing at Easter.

We invite you to attend our special worship service on March 2nd, at 9:30am, " In The Face Of War." The worship service will be held at Magothy United Methodist Church of the Deaf 3703 Mountain Rd. Pasadena, MD Refreshments will be provided after worship.



Our **Ash Wednesday** worship service is on *Wednesday, March 4th at 7pm*. This is a combined deaf and hearing service. We hope to have all in attendance as we begin the season of Lent together.

Contact Darlene Koontz to find out which Mondays *sign language classes* will be held in March. Darlene's email address is koontz4@erols.com or you can call her at 410-360-2751 TTY.



A bible study series on the *Book of Acts* in the New Testament will begin in March. Our bible study will be on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of March and April at 6:30pm. We will learn how the Christian church began.



INVITATION

WHO: You

WHEN: Fri, March 14th

TIME: 5:30pm

WHAT: Deaf Potluck



HOSTED BY:

Deaf United Methodist Women

WHERE: Magothy United Methodist Church of the Deaf, in the fellowship hall.

Free soup will be provided. You may bring crackers, bread &/or soda. Also, there will be a bake sale. Following dinner, we will have a short program by Maryland Relay.

For more information contact: Darlene Koontz at 410-360-2751 TTY or email her at koontz4@erols.com or Carolyn Dyles at 410.255.1166 TTY or Cmopyles@aol.com.