

THE EPWORTH VISITOR - MAY 2010

May 2010

The EPWORTH VISITOR-MAY 2010

Check us out on the web:

epworth.yacumc.org

- View copies of past newsletters
- Listen to Pastor Steve's sermons
- See pictures of church activities
- Keep track of the most up-to-date church calendar
- Just want electronic newsletters? No problem- call or email the office.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE :

Pastor Steve's Message 1

Rummage Sale 2

Ed Committee 2

UMW Assembly 2

Daycare News 3

Fellowship Families 5

Haiti Mercy Mission 6

A NOTE FROM PASTOR STEVE

The season between Easter and Pentecost is the time when we try and wrap our minds around the concept of the radical nature of God's unconditional love for us. The cross reveals the extent God will go to in order to demonstrate that love.

God's love is a gift – a free gift. There is nothing you can do to make God love you more. There is nothing you can do to make God love you less. Before we can talk about any other aspect of our faith we have to fully integrate this knowledge into every aspect of our being.

"There is nothing you can or must do to earn that relationship of solidarity with God. It has always been there. It is always there. It was there before we were

old enough to do anything but cry when we were hungry or uncomfortable. It has been there through our lives. It is there when we deny it. It is there when we ignore it. It is there when we go astray and behave in ways that are painful to God, when we harm ourselves or others. It is there when we are not capable of perceiving it, as in the dementia that often accompanies old age. It is there because God has determined that it will be there. God's presence and solidarity with us is God's decision, demonstrated on the cross. It has nothing to do with any decision of ours. We can't earn it. We don't have to.

The matter is very different when we look at the divine-human relationship from the hu-

man side.

God does not force God-self upon us.

The real issue before us humans is not whether we are saved. It is whether or not we will acknowledge our salvation and work to live into it, to incorporate it into the way we live, to reap its benefits for our lives and for the world.

[Liberating Christianity, Thomas C. Sorensen, p 137]

You are Invited to our Annual United Methodist Women's

"Time for Tea"

Sunshine Luncheon

Bring a friend-join us as we honor special women in our congregation.

It's a delightful time of food, fun, and fellowship.

May 6, 2010

Time- Noon

RUMMAGE , RUMMAGE , RUMMAGE !!!

There are no words to express the thanks of the Mission Committee for the abundance of rummage and service of so many, (including our

United Methodist Youth Fellowship) within the Epworth Family given so freely! Through the efforts and prayers of these volunteers we raised over \$1000 and

money is still being donated, which will be given to three worthy projects.

- Providence Home in Kalispell
- The United Methodist Children's Project in Haiti
- Mercy Mission in Haiti

In addition to helping

these children we know we helped our local people in need by providing items at a minimal cost.

Thanks to those who prayed, baked, sorted, set up, assisted, greeted, welcomed, and of course, cleaned up!

May God bless this special project of Epworth UMC.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

A meeting was held on Sunday, April 18th to continue planning this year's VBS (Vacation Bible School). The theme will be "Baobab Blast", where kids experience the joy of God's community. Throughout the week, kids learn of God's unconditional love and are encour-

aged to spread His Word wherever they go. VBS will be held **July 19th-23rd** (Yes, a change from last month!) Continue to look for more specifics about time and schedule in future newsletters.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!
Epworth's VBS has a

great tradition in our community and requires planning, organizing and sharing of ideas.

Whatever your talents, **WE NEED YOU!!** Feel free to call Willi Leatzow (854-2800) or the church office if you have any questions.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE CALENDAR:

MAY 16th: Senior Brunch

MAY 23rd: Last day of Sunday School

July 19-23rd: VBS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - ASSEMBLY 2010

Picture hundreds of women (and many men) gathering from April 30th to May 2nd in St. Louis MO. Rev. Ray and Jean Davis will be attending the "Faith, Hope, and Love" 2010 United Methodist Women's Assembly. It is a

time to celebrate with others from all over the world the work of United Methodist Women where our giving is at work in 103 mission institutions in this country and nearly 300 programs and institutions in more than 58 coun-

tries around the world. We believe our "Faith" leads us to do God's work; our "Hope" is that the world will change; and because we believe, we put our "Love" into action. Pray for this gathering and the work of our United Methodist Women.



Assembly 2010

UMW NEWS

United Methodist Women deeply appreciate contributions toward our fundraising efforts for new stoves. To date we have received \$1054.73 for this project. We have not yet reached our goal. If you'd like to help us, make your check payable to UMW reference stoves in the memo.

Annual Sunshine Luncheon is May 6 at 12 pm to honor church women 75 years and older. Invitation extended to all women of Epworth.

Jean Davis and her committee have planned the program which will include music from Daycare kids. Those needing a ride to the luncheon should

call the church office by Tues, May 4th and we will let you know who will be providing your ride.

Please mark your calendars for our annual retreat on June 24th to be held at Ginny Hoffman's home on Ashley Lake.

We still are looking for **backups for the sound/media system.** This is an opportunity for youth to volunteer but we also need adults to help. There is an immediate need for May and throughout the summer for volunteers. Training is available- contact Lana Shura (752-3565) or the church office (257-6849) for more information.

NEWS FROM THE DAYCARE

We have been enjoying this warm spring weather- no snow pants and boots! Our enrollment is up this month. We took in a few new 2 year olds. It's been like Christmas- with all the toys Debbie and Jason Skalsky have donated. The new playhouse, picnic table and kitchen

in the yard are just a few of the fun things they have donated. Denise and her class started plants for a garden we hope to grow. Bob Jacobson said he would build us a raised flower bed along the west side of the fence. The kids are very excited to plant their beans,

tomatoes and flowers and in fact, they've already picked some beans

We are getting ready to sing at the sunshine luncheon on the 6th of May. The children will start making their Mother's Day gifts next week.

A Hundred Years From Now

....it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove
but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a CHILD

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY TO ALL THE LADIES OF EPWORTH



TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Saturday, May 1, from 10:00 to 2:00, is hereby declared "Spring Clean-Up Day"

at Epworth! Bring brooms, rakes, mops, vacuum cleaners, dust rags - and lots of

good old-fashioned elbow grease. The Trustees are preparing a list of things that

need doing inside and outside the church.

Please join us in making our church sparkle People of all ages are welcome and encouraged

to participate.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HAITI



Please help our camp scholarship fund. Donations can be made through the office. Just indicate "Camp Scholarships" in the memo section of your check. These memories will last a lifetime for our Epworth youth. Thank you!

While Haiti Methodist Church is small in size and membership, the community grew larger, reaching out, distributing food and searching for people missing and trapped in the rubble even as they were recovering from their own loss following the earthquake. "To me, the one thing that people need now is courage. Because if something

like that happens and you are discouraged, that means you are not going anywhere. After the earthquake life continues," said the Rev. Gesner Paul, Pres of the Methodist Church in Haiti. Rev. Paul prayed with and briefed intl visitors, and assessed needs of community and church. Yellowstone Conference has given generously through UMCOR and Advance

#00483 which supports mission work in Haiti. Please continue to pray for our sister churches and people of Haiti. With more and more disaster areas, we are always able to reach out through UMCOR. Our own Charlie Howard is currently in MA, with FEMA assisting in disaster support there.

Epworth rejoices in the many ways we all serve our neighbors as Jesus taught.

2010 SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

The 2010 School of Christian Mission will be here before we know it!

When? August 18-22

Where? Flathead UMC Camp at Rollins

What? Fun, Fellowship, Study Recreation, Worship

Who? All men, women, youth and children

Leaders: Rev. Sue DeBree leading Spiritual Growth Study on the Gospel of John

Dr. Sue King leading the study on Mission and Evangelism entitled "Joy to the World"

Sally McConnell leading Geographic study on Sudan

(Continuing Education credits are available!)

For more information contact a UMW officer.



NATIVE AMERICAN SUNDAY

Native American Sunday was celebrated as we welcomed Rev. Jim Barth from the Blackfeet Parish to Epworth UMC on April 11th. Jim and his wife, Larissa, shared their personal connection to the parish and their calling to

serve.

Following our Rummage Sale, Bob and Sue Jacobson delivered a truckload of items to the parish. We celebrate the Barths and continue to pray and support our Native American outreach.



May Lay Readers

1st Service

- May 2- Lew Savik
- May 9 Allison Woodruff
- May 16- Leah Woodruff
- May 23 Cathy Wyatt
- May 30- Neal Wyatt

May Lay Readers

2nd Service

- May 2- Jerrel Hudson
- May 9 Sylvia Heselwood
- May 16- Kris Riley
- May 23 Jerrel Hudson
- May 30-*needed*

May Altar Flowers

- May 9: Bill Ann Burch
- May 16: Irene Houston
- May 23: Jim & Jeanne Oleson
- May 30: Joann & Walt Bahr

FELLOWSHIP FAMILIES FOR MAY

Thanks to each of you who have made our Fellowship Family Coffee Hours (10:00 hour between services) a special time for Christian fun and fellowship. Your Fellowship Family Coordinator will be contacting members about the assigned Coffee Hours for your group. Please contact the office if you have questions or concerns. Enjoy this special time together with our Epworth United Methodist Family

May 2nd
 Coordinators:
 Ron and Anita Hoyo 257-1860
 Scott and Deb Crandell-
 Doris Molina
 Linda & Douglas Conners
 Fred Heim
 Brett & Deanna Walcheck
 Giles & Juanita Hunt
 Yvonne Stotler
 Lorraine Nelson

May 9th
 Coordinators:
 Terry & Joyce Schutt 257-0731
 Wes & Fay Wolf
 Joyce Cottet
 Thelma Herbst
 Donna & Betty Peterson
 Roy & Mary Wallis
 Dan & Sherry Johns
 Joshua & Rebecca Stillo

May 16th
 Coordinator:
 Fran Hughes 752-7757
 Terry & Stacia Moore
 Dan & Lana Shura
 John & Lois Cummings
 Ron & Gloria Shirtliff
 Iva Mae DiGiovanni
 Ron & Katherine Hopkins
 Charlie & Patricia Phillips
 Gladys Sorrells
 Nancy Watson
 Roger Nelson

May 23rd
 Coordinators:
 Rocky and Bev Webster 257-5572
 Sean and Denise Nalty
 Robert and Beverly Braig

Jeff O'Brien
 Mike and Lore Davis
 Rick Hunt
 Don and Barbara Murray
 Jason and Debbie Skalsky
 Irene Houston
 Bob and Shirley Reasner

May 30th
 Coordinators: Jon and Sylvia Heselwood 755-0226

Dave & Jennifer Crosswhite
 Joy Javorka
 Jennifer Skalsky
 Linda Anderson
 Joyce DeLong
 Kenny and Michelle Huff
 Joyce Reed
 Lorna Wilson
 Edna Johnson
 Bert and Cindy Johnson

June 6th
 Coordinators: Tryg & Lynette Johnson 755-9339
 Chris & Sue Haugan
 Joy Elgin & Royce Mikelson
 Kristina & Meaghan Nixon
 Diane Smart
 Walter & Joann Bahr
 Margaret Jacobson
 Rob & Kris Riley



As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem. -ISAIAH 66:13 NIV

**EPWORTH UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

329 2nd Ave East
Kalispell, MT 59901
Phone: 406-257-6849
Fax: 406-257-6861
epworth.yacumc.org

**Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 75
Kalispell MT 59901**

**THE EPWORTH VISITOR -
MAY 2010**



Return service requested

**Open Hearts, Open
Minds, Open Doors**

HAITI MERCY MISSION UPDATE



The four members of our mission team that stayed in Haiti have returned home. Jeanette and Frank are busy reviewing records of all donations and also matching up new orphans with requests and doing speaking engagements.

Several more children are being sponsored locally. The mission board met and has committed \$5000 to the medical clinic that is being opened to care

for refugees and poor residents. I have a huge box of Crocs to send to Pignon thanks to a generous donation from the Soroptomists Thrift Store and The Toggery (brand new and very colorful) plus a number of pair from our rummage sale.

My goal now is to help raise money for a much needed solar power system. It would provide power to pump water to buildings, save fuel running the genera-

tor, provide hot water and eventually washing machines and save on charcoal and fuel for cooking.

I hope to again have a huckleberry pancake breakfast in Sept. and to sell items at fall bazaar. Thank you for all your generous donations and prayers and to the Mission Committee for sharing some of the rummage/bake sale proceeds with the Haiti Mercy Mission. - Pat Freebury