

Fayette Community Church Communicator

February 2012

together...

bring  hope



2012 heart of ministries offering

And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.

(Matthew 10:42)

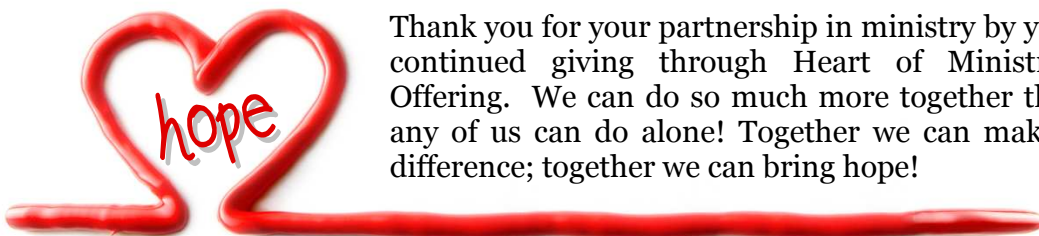
Although we live in time when technology has us connected to every corner of the world, there are millions of people who do not yet know the source of true HOPE. You and I have the privilege of spreading the message of HOPE. How wonderful to be a part of what God is doing at home and around the world.



Some of those waiting for HOPE may be homeless, orphans, widows, broken families, disabled, aged, or victims of domestic abuse or human trafficking. Your giving will make a difference.

Funds raised will provide resources & training and establish networks to advance the Kingdom of God through the ministries of Wesleyan Women. Christ asks us to spread His message so people can come to the Lord.

Please be in prayer about your contribution to this offering. Our church will take this offering on Sunday, February 19th. Brochures will be available in your bulletins that week. You may use the envelopes provided in the brochures or simply write "Heart of Ministries" on the memo line of your check and place it in the offering plate. (After February 14th, any leftover brochures will be available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.) You can also donate by going to www.wesleyan.org/ww and following the links to donate online or write a check and mail it to Wesleyan Women, PO Box 50434, Indianapolis, IN 46250.



Thank you for your partnership in ministry by your continued giving through Heart of Ministries Offering. We can do so much more together than any of us can do alone! Together we can make a difference; together we can bring hope!

wesleyan women



Quizzing Soup Supper

Monday, February 27th
4:30 – 7:00 P.M.

FREE WILL DONATION



Proceeds will help send the quizzers to nationals!

C.M.B. & L.B.A.

The Christian Ministries Board will meet on Tuesday, February 14th at 6:30 PM followed by the Local Board of Administration at 7:00 PM.

Wesleyan Women

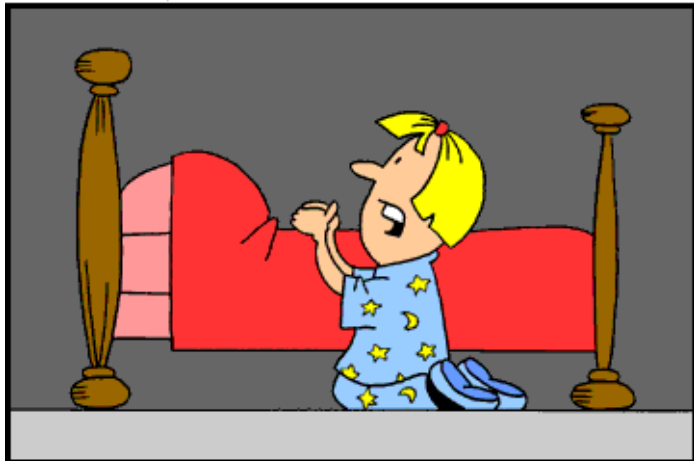
This month's meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21st at 6:30 P.M. Please contact Amy Campbell if you have any questions.



Tuesday,
February 21st

Ministry Leaders: Don't forget to fill out your activity forms for activities, events & dates in March & April and give them to Kate by the deadline. Forms are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please contact Kate with any questions.

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02-13-1998

WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?



Warrior Servant Martial Arts News

All (Fayette Club) Warrior Servant Martial Arts Classes have been moved to Mondays. The Squires Class (for ages 5–9) is from 5:45–6:45 PM and Son Shield Kenpo Martial Arts Class is from 7:00–9:00 PM (classes are held at UIU.) If you are interested in joining or enrolling your child(ren) in these classes, please see Sensei James Tenney for more information or contact him at 563-380-4885. (Also, for anyone who might be interested, the West Union Club meets on Tuesdays at the same times in the Valleyview Center (behind the Valleyview church.)

Recipe Corner

Italian Meatloaf

(This is a double recipe—fits in a 9x13 baking dish)

- 1 lb. Ground Italian Sausage
- 2 lb. Ground Beef, Turkey or Chicken (or mixture)
- ½ C. Italian Dressing
- 2 T. Worcestershire Sauce
- 2 Large Eggs
- 1 Large Onion, finely chopped
- ¾ C. Dried Bread Crumbs (Italian Style)
- ¼ C. Grated Parmesan Cheese
- 2-3 Cloves of Garlic, finely chopped/minced
(or ½ tsp. Garlic Powder)
- ½ T. Dried Italian Seasoning
- 1 T. Kosher Salt (or 1 tsp. table salt)
- 1 tsp. Ground Mustard
- ½ tsp. Ground Black Pepper
- ~1½ C. (approx. 10-14 oz.) Pasta Sauce (I use regular tomato sauce and add 1 tsp. Italian Seasoning, ¼ tsp. Garlic Powder and a little fresh ground black pepper.)

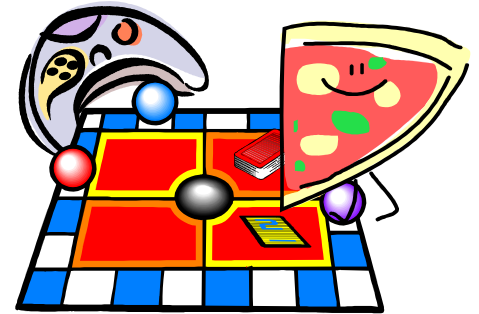
Heat oven to 350°. Mix all ingredients except Pasta Sauce in a large mixing bowl. Spread mixture in an ungreased 9x13 baking dish. Form into a loaf (making sure there is a "canal" between the loaf and the edge of the pan.) Spread the pasta sauce on top (let it drop down the sides of the loaf if you like.) If possible, insert a meat thermometer so the tip is in the center of the loaf. Bake, uncovered for 1½ to 2 hours (when using turkey, I err on the side of caution and bake for about 2 hours) or until temperature reaches 180°. (170° if using sausage and beef only and no poultry.)

Drain meat loaf. Let stand 5-10 minutes before cutting or removing from pan.



For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
2 Corinthians 10:3-4

(UNOFFICIAL) ANNUAL SUPER BOWL SUNDAY
Sin Busters Youth Game Night
February 5th at 5:30 PM
Board Games • Video Games • Pizza



For youth who don't care about the Super Bowl—bring your favorite games and come on out for a great time! (If you have a video game system & games you would be willing to bring to share, please see Pastor Ray!) Please bring chips or a finger-food dessert/snack to share.

From the Youth Pastor

Bringing Hope to Despair

This past Sunday we held our regularly scheduled youth service. The message that God laid on my hearth dealt with the topic of bullying and how it has become a problem extending much farther than school-aged “kid stuff.” The focus of the sermon was that “bullies” are people that God loves and is trying to reach, and what our response as Christians should be when we encounter or witness bullying.

But what about the “target” (those who get bullied?) When a person is a target of bullying (known in the adult world as “harassment” or even “abuse,” which can be verbal, mental, emotional or physical) there can seem to be no hope—only despair. For them, there is nothing to look forward to. They often feel that no one cares or even notices them. They feel that they are powerless to do anything. Eventually, many sink so far into despair that they believe the only way out is suicide.

When we come across those who have been bullied and targeted, it becomes extremely important for us to reach out to them. God loves them and we have the opportunity to show that love by our actions. We have the following opportunity indicated by scripture, “Praise be to the God...of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.” (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) It is through our love and compassion that we are able to show them that there is hope even when all they see is despair.

You could be the person God uses to restore hope to those who have none—and we know that once you believe and have hope, God makes it all good!

“but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)

Pastor Ray

Mission News

“May we become intercessors with a world vision that prays Satan-defeating, Kingdom-taking, people-reaching, captive-releasing, revival-giving, Christ-glorifying prayers.”

—*Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation*

Weekly Prayer Focus:

Week 1: February 5–11: Missionaries: Pray for the Lord to provide God-created situations where missionaries are brought into contact with those who are seeking and are receptive to the way, the truth, and the life. Pray for discernment to know God’s time, place, and person(s) and for patience with His plans.

Week 2: February 12–18: GP Asia Area: Wesleyan pastors, church leaders, and lay members in many parts of Asia are challenged, particularly by radical groups of other religions (Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, etc.) because of their Christian witness in their communities. Pray for their safety. Also pray for the Holy Spirit to give them the appropriate responses to these negative situations, some which could result in persecution.

*Pray for the daily lives of our missionaries and their children who are ministering in various areas within Asia. Pray for God to give the grace needed to see them through the challenges they face as messengers of the gospel. Also pray for the missionaries raising their support teams while on home ministries.

Week 3: February 19–25: Cameroon/Democratic Republic of Congo/Kenya/Malawi/Uganda: Pray that Wesleyan congregations in these countries would be imitators of God in everything they do so that non-Christians would know they belong to God and would be drawn to Him.

Week 4: February 26–March 3: Albania/Bosnia/Croatia/Kosovo: Pray for God to penetrate the darkness that has hung over these countries for centuries. Pray for Him to remove the obstacles that the Enemy has in place to hinder the advancement of the gospel message. Pray for God to give people eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to receive.

Hephzibah Ministries: “Dear Wesleyan Women (fellow church members): Joy to the World! Christmas is a time of peace, love and joy! May we never grow weary rejoicing in the true meaning of Christmas! Jesus is The Real Reason for the Season! I am writing to thank you for the toiletries, diapers, wipes, and the quilt. Thanks for being so thoughtful in remembering our children and young people here at Hephzibah. We just got three new moms and babies and this will help them!

It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas here on our campus. Each cottage is adding their special touch to decorating their home! Special activity is planned throughout the month of December for the children and young people. Some are participating in various church and school Christmas activities. A formal campus dinner is planned for all staff and children this month! We want our young people and children to know and experience the joy of Christmas. For some it will be the first time to understand and know the “real” meaning of Christmas.

Thank you for enriching the lives of our children here at Hephzibah Children’s Home with your warmth and kindness. May God’s love surround you throughout 2012 and I pray you have a Joyful and Happy New Year! Christmas Blessings from my heart to yours.” /s/ Shirley L. Duncan

Andrea Swarthout: Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas season. It was great to hear from so many of you! The Christmas season was full of events celebrating Christ’s birth. In Japan, because less than 1% of Japanese are Christians, sometimes Christmas can be mistaken as Santa’s birthday. I am thankful for the opportunity to have so many events to share the wonderful news of God sending Jesus into the world. Here are a couple of highlights: December 6-8, I went up to Kamisu ... to speak at their ladies Christmas party. Even though they were struggling from the effects of the earthquake, it was great to see the joy in their faces. To avoid the Christmas rush, I held my annual Christmas open house on December 11th. It was sad knowing it will be my last one in my current home. Almost 40 people came. Because my house is very small, it got a little “cozy” at times but no one seemed to mind. Then at Kyoto Nishi Church, on the evening of December 23rd, we had a beautiful candlelight service. After Christmas morning service on the 25th, the church members went caroling at a nearby nursing home. (On the 26th) ... I was asked to give the Christmas message at a counseling center to about 70 people. Thank you so much ... for your continued prayers and support!

Wesleyan Native Ministries: Thousands of Native Americans heard the Christmas story and gospel message presented in a culturally relevant way through eight "Native Nativity" Christmas outreach events sponsored by Wesleyan Native Ministries in the month of December. The events were held in both urban and reservation communities (some located in the poorest counties in America), including Rapid City, Mission, Martin, Pierre, White River, Cherry Creek, and Eagle Butte in South Dakota, and Crow Agency in Montana. The centerpiece of the Native Nativity program was a series of film clips from the movie, *Miracle in the Wilderness* (starring Kris Kristofferson), a western Christmas story about a kidnapped frontier family that tells the story of Christ's birth to an angry Blackfoot chief and his tribe.

Interspersed between the film clips were Christmas carols, sung in both English and Lakota, and children re-enacting the birth of Christ in front of a tipi while wearing traditional Lakota regalia. At the end of the program, the gospel was presented in a culturally relevant way, and attendees were given the opportunity to accept Christ. More than 150 responded by taking new steps of faith in Christ. They were given a Bible a Native adaptation of the Gospel of John.

After the Christmas program, everyone enjoyed a traditional Lakota meal of buffalo stew, frybread, and wojape (a berry pudding). Following the meal, the elders were honored and given blankets, while each child received a wrapped gift. The Wesleyan Church's [Wesleyan Native Ministries](#) equips and empowers Native American men and women to take the lead in reaching their people for Christ within the context of their culture.

Greg and Tonya Hardy: "God is Good...all the time...all the time...God is Good! Happy New Year's Eve! What an amazing year it's been for us. From unexpected challenges to abundant blessings, our God is good! However, before 2011 makes its descent into history, we have another praise to share with you. Because of your prayers and God's faithfulness to answer according to His will, we have reached our year end benchmark of 40%. If you recall, as of December 11th, we were at 38%. We sent you an update asking for prayer as we were about to visit our last church of the year. Well, between members of Wesleyan Community Church in Cheboygan MI, and another very special couple, we reached that faith based goal. Praise God!!! I pray that you will join hands with us to honor, glorify and boast on HIM this last night of 2011 because He continues to give life to this ministry. Now...even though we are still a few hours shy of reaching 2012, please take the next step with us and look at what's ahead!

- We have a full schedule in January and February. Praise the Lord!!!!
- Greg will be cutting his hours at work from full-time to part-time until we reach 50% at which time he hopes to resign.
- Tommy is waiting patiently and praying he gets accepted into IWU.
- Since we anticipate traveling outside of Michigan for longer periods of time, we need to make tough decisions whether to continue traditional school or attempt home schooling for both Sami and Christopher.
- And the obvious, we still have a long journey ahead of us, especially with a goal of departing the summer of 2012. However, if this last year has taught us anything, it's the importance of our dependence on Christ and Christ alone as He continues to confirm His call on our lives.

So our prayer for 2012 is that we (Greg and Tonya) remain in step with Christ. We don't want to run ahead of Him or fall behind Him; instead, it's our desire to listen intentionally, to recognize and be more aware of His Divine appointments, and to be ever more depend on the work of Holy Spirit instead of our own abilities.

Finally, please pray Colossians 4:2-6 on our behalf as we desire to be HIS vessels, proclaiming the mystery of Christ clearly, being wise and making the most of every opportunity both locally and once we are on the field.

While we are certain the year 2012 will bring new challenges, difficult changes, and tearful goodbyes, we are even more confident of God's peace, comfort and blessings through it all! Before we close we would like to share our thanksgiving prayer for you. It is found in 1 Thessalonians 3:9, "How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you." Thank you for your commitment to prayer and for making our family a part of your family.

His Ambassadors,
Greg, Tonya, Tommy, Samantha & Christopher"

Submitted by Joyce Duncklee