

Tims Tales

St. Timothys United Methodist Church ☎ 266-0464 ✉ info@sttims-umc.org 🌐 www.sttims-umc.org

Pastors Corner

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent reminds us that we are on a journey – life is a journey; Lent is a journey. Scripture is full of journey stories. Abram journeyed hundreds of miles from his home in Ur, not knowing where he was going but trusting God. He arrived in Canaan much later; God had shown him the way. The Israelites who were freed from slavery in Egypt took a journey that lasted 40 years and landed them in a new land. Jesus took a journey after his baptism that drove him into a wilderness of testing and trial. As a baby, he had journeyed with his parents into Egypt and back again. At the age of 12 he journeyed from Nazareth in the north to Jerusalem in the south to be in his “Father’s house.” Paul journeyed all over Asia Minor and parts of Europe spreading the good news about Christ crucified and risen. To be a child of God is to be on a journey.

Lent is one part of our life’s journey on earth that begins at birth and ends at death. It is a spiritual journey we choose to take with God who invites us to join in a journey for 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It is an inward journey involving self-examination and renewal and an outward journey involving service and acts of love, justice, and compassion. It is a journey we take together with fellow travelers in our community of faith.

Heitzenrater wrote that the Wesleyan heritage takes its vital energy from the “dynamic imagery of the spiritual pilgrimage.” He describes this Wesleyan pilgrimage as “the story of a people struggling together to understand God and themselves as they move from birth to death, from new birth to eternal life, from fear to joy, from doubt to confidence.”

It is a journey in which we aren’t sure where we are going. It is a journey without a map. Yes, we have the Bible, which some folks say is a map. But my experience with the Word is that it is more like a guide than a map. It contains stories from the past, not predictions of the future. These stories tell how God’s people journeyed together with all their fears and failures, their joys and

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successes. But they are not just about the past. They inform and inspire our present as they tell us of a God who is present in our journeys today. In all these stories it is the journey not the destination that is important.

So, let's journey together. Let's learn to love each other more and support each other better as we grow in love for God and grow in faithfulness to what God is calling us to do. It's not so much what we believe as it is who we are and how we live that are important. Please join me as we journey together.

Peace, Dick Clark

Peace with Justice Scholarship Essay Contest

The Contest

The Peace with Justice Scholarship Essay Contest is open to students who are high school juniors and seniors during the current school year and who live in Iowa or attend an Iowa high school. They need not be members of a United Methodist Church nor any other religious body.

Announced each year in January, the essay contest will be publicized through the Iowa Conference Communications Ministry office and eight district offices, and in an email to all the high school principals and/or guidance counselors in Iowa.

Completed essays must be typewritten (not handwritten) and should be sent to Marian Solomon, Iowa Conference Peace with Justice Coordinator, 1801 20th Street, Ames, IA 50010, postmarked no later than April 15, 2009. It is preferred that essays be sent via email by the same date to msolomon@mchsi.com.

Scholarship Essay Winners

Essays will be judged by a committee selected by the Iowa Conference Board of Church & Society of The United Methodist Church. There will be three winners. Each one will receive a \$500 scholarship award. Winners' names will be announced and scholarships presented on Friday, June 5, 2009, at the annual awards ceremony during the Iowa Annual Conference session in Ames.

Topic for 2009

To enter the scholarship essay contest, submit an original essay of approximately 500 to 1500 words to the address/email address listed above. Essays should address this year's topic:

"How can people of faith devote the same discipline and sacrifice to non-violent peace-making that the military devotes to war?"

Please contact Ms. Solomon with any questions.



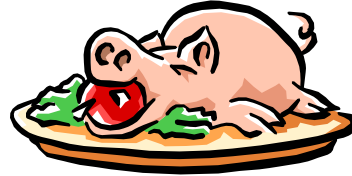
Our Sympathy To...

Morden & Dorothy McFadden whose son Brian, died on Monday, February 2.

Dave Pounds whose mother died on Sunday, February 8.

Planning the Pork Dinner

The Missions Ministry Team of St. Timothys would like to bring back our annual Pork Dinner this fall. In previous years this has been a fun, and effective way for our church to help fund much-needed outreach activities in our community.



We are seeking volunteers to lead or help lead the project. Please contact Dorinda Pounds or June Niedert if you are willing to help in this way.

“Three Cups of Tea”

Thank you to Marlys Hughes, who donated the children’s book version of “*Three Cups of Tea*” entitled “*Listen to the Wind, The Story of Dr. Greg and Three Cups of Tea,*” by Greg Mortenson and Susan L. Roth to the Cunningham School library.

You can check out the book from our church library. Also available in our library is the young adult version, “*Three Cups of Tea, One Man’s Journey to Change the World, One Child At A Time,*” by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

In the book, Greg Mortenson, and journalist David Oliver Relin, recount the journey that led Mortenson from a failed 1993 attempt to climb Pakistan’s K2 mountain, to successfully establish schools in some of the most remote regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan. By replacing guns with pencils, rhetoric with reading, Mortenson combines his unique background with his intimate knowledge of the third-world to promote peace with books, not bombs, and successfully bring education and hope to remote communities in central Asia.

Coming Events

Wednesday Nights at St. Tims

LAST (Life at St. Tims)

CAST (Children at St. Tims—grades K - 6)

First Wednesday, February 4

Supper is served – 5:45 to 6:30 pm

Finance Committee – 6:00 pm

CAST – 6:15 to 7:30 pm

Chancel choir – 7:00 pm

First Wednesday, March 4

Supper is served – 5:45 to 6:30 pm

Finance Committee – 6:00 pm

CAST – 6:15 to 7:30 pm

Chancel choir – 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Christian Education Ministry Team –
7:35 pm

Second Wednesday, March 11

Supper is served – 5:45 to 6:30 pm

Church & Society Ministry Team – 6:00 pm

CAST – 6:15 to 7:30 pm

Chancel choir – 7:00 pm

Leadership Council – 8:08 pm

Third Wednesday, March 18

Supper is served – 5:45 to 6:30 pm

Missions Ministry Team – 6:00 pm

CAST – 6:15 to 7:30 pm

Chancel choir – 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Fourth Wednesday, March 25

Supper is served – 5:45 to 6:30 pm

Staff-Parish Relations Committee –
6:00 pm

CAST – 6:15 to 7:30 pm

Chancel choir – 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Supper Club - March 8

The Supper Club will go out for supper on Sunday, March 8, at 5:30 pm, to Beck's Sports Brewery, 3295 University Avenue, Waterloo.

This is not a real club; just a group of St. Tims folks who like to eat and like each other's company. Join us for a good meal (you order what you want off the menu) and great fellowship. Call Bob or Jean Altenhein for reservations.



Upcoming ASP Fundraisers

Mark your calendars

Our 2009 ASP (Appalachian Service Project) Mission Team is planning two fundraisers.

On **March 28** they will host a Dinner and a Movie. Watch the Sunday announcements for more details.

Come to a smorgasbord lunch after worship on **April 19**.

Worship in March

Child care is provided during Sunday School and Worship

Sunday School - 9:00 to 10:00 am

We have classes for all ages

Sunday Worship - 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, March 1

1st Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion

Music by the Chancel Choir

“There Is A Green Hill Far Away”

Dick Clark preaching

Lectionary Readings: Genesis 9:8-17;

Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-25;

Mark 1:9-15

Sunday, March 8

2nd Sunday in Lent

Music by the Chancel Choir

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

Dick Clark preaching

Lectionary Readings: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-

16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25;

Mark 8:31-38

Sunday, March 15

3rd Sunday in Lent

Dick Clark preaching

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 20:1-17;

Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25;

John 2:13-22

Sunday, March 22

4th Sunday in Lent

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Dick Clark preaching

Lectionary Readings: Numbers 21:4-9;

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22;

Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Sunday, March 29 - 5th Sunday in Lent

Music by the Chancel Choir

“Come, Follow Me”

Dick Clark preaching

Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34;

Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10;

John 12:20-33



UMW Calendar

March Bible Verse:

Leviticus 19:10

Don't strip your vineyard bare, or go back and pick up the fallen grapes. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner.

Thurs. March 5, 9:30 am

Ex. Board Meeting, Carol Butler, Chair

Fri. March 6

World Day of Prayer

First Presbyterian Church

Thurs. March 12, 9:30 am

Unit meeting

Home Connection by Marsha Bellman

Tues. March 17

District Mission Study

Fairbank UMC

Submit news for the April 2009
issue of Tims Tales
to Sally Yakish
webspinner@sttims-umc.org
by **Friday, March 20**

Christian Education

Sunday School news

Invitation to tell your story

During Sunday School, we talk about the stories of our faith. Do you ever have an opportunity to talk about your faith? Sally Hoelscher reports, "Many people in this world hunger – some for food, some for attention, some for a relationship with God..." What is your hunger? Would you like to have an opportunity to talk about your faith?

What a gift it would be for the children of St. Tims to hear your story(ies) of faith. If you would like to talk about your faith, but would like an opportunity to talk about your faith with other adults before you share your story(ies) with children, let's set it up. Contact Joan.

Sunday, March 29 is Bring a Friend to Church Sunday.

CAST (Children At St Tims) and the children who participate in Sunday School have been challenged to bring a friend to church on March 29. The children thought it would be a good idea if the adults were also challenged to "bring a friend to church." Are you up for the challenge?

For Parents with young children

We have 2 child care attendants on duty during worship, from approximately 10 minutes before worship until 10 minutes after worship.

Sunday School meets 9:00 to 10:00 am

Everyone age 3 to adult is welcome to attend Sunday school at St Tims.

Children meet in the Music Room for their Gathering Service, youth (7th-12th grade) meet in the Youth Lounge, and adults meet in the Conference Room next to the main office.

An offering goes towards a number of mission projects.

Nursery care for families with small children will be offered during Sunday School and worship if a need is expressed.

This year we are using a "one-room schoolhouse" model for the elementary section, and we are pleased to be using Seasons of the Spirit curriculum. This resource helps the children make meaning of the biblical texts used at Sunday Worship. This is very important time for us as we tell the stories of our faith and allow the stories to propel us into action (*"Pray With Our Feet"*). Please join us!

Please contact Joan if you have any questions, or if you'd like to help out in the future!

View St. Tims calendar online

You'll find an online version of our calendar at www.sttims-umc.org. Find the "Calendar" link on the left side. Click on an event to see the details.

News from CAST (*Children At St Tims*)...

CAST is every Wednesday, 6:15 to 7:30 pm, for kids in grades K-6

On Wednesday nights, the focus of CAST (Children At St. Tims) is on how we can put our stories of faith into action. We call it "praying with our feet." As you know, we have made blankets, packed Welcome Packets, and made toys for the women and children at Cedar Valley Friends of the Family in Waverly. The children's many kindnesses have been gratefully received.

During the months of February, March, and April, our children will focus on collecting Pennies for Peace, a program of Central Asia Institute (CAI). Pennies for Peace educates children about the world beyond their experiences and shows them that they can make a positive impact on a global scale, one penny at a time. Here at St. Tims, our association with Pennies for Peace encourages our children, ultimately our future leaders, to be active participants in the creation of global peace. CAI is a cross-cultural, solution-oriented approach.

Boys and girls in grades K-6 are welcome to attend CAST (Children At St Tims). Membership is always free, and not restricted to children from St. Tims. If there is a need for nursery care on Wednesday nights, it could easily be arranged.



Dinner is served at 5:45 p.m. (donations are appreciated!!). CAST is from 6:15-7:30 p.m.

Please call Joan if you have questions, or if you have a nursery need, or if you want to volunteer your time and talents on Wednesday nights.

Confirmation Class

Stay tuned in March

Please watch your email, the Sunday announcements, and our online calendar for the date of our March class. Although we normally meet on the fourth Sunday of the month, it will depend on everyone's plans for spring break.

Tims Tales is published by
St. Timothy's United Methodist Church
3220 Terrace Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613

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Linda Clark	Director of Music Ministries
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Sally Yakish	Tims Tales & Website Editor

Tims Tales is available for download from the website www.sttims-umc.org

Study and Discussion Group News

“The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus”

In March we will continue our reading and discussion of Amy-Jill Levine’s book, *The Misunderstood Jew: the Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus*.

March Schedule:

Classes are Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and Fridays from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

March 5 & 6 – Chapter 3, “The New Testament and Anti-Judaism”

March 12 & 13 – Chapter 4, “Stereotyping Judaism”

March 19 & 20 – No classes

March 26 & 27 – Chapter 5, “With Friends Like These”

If you would like us to order a copy of *The Misunderstood Jew*, please call the church office, 266-0464 or email Dick at sttimsrevdick@cfu.net. The cost is \$11.86, a savings of 15% of the list price.

Dick Clark is the discussion leader. These classes are open to everyone, including senior high youth and adults. They are to help youth and adults grapple with faith questions and issues and to grow in faith. Feel free to invite friends and acquaintances.

Methodist Federation for Social Action Upcoming Events



Peace Conference – April 18-19, 2009

A Peace Conference will be held April 18 -19, 2009 at Wesley Woods. Put it on your calendar and watch for details coming soon.

Bishop Trimble to Speak – Saturday, April 25

Bishop Julius Trimble will be the keynote speaker for MFSA’s Spring Statewide Gathering on Saturday, April 25, at 10:00 AM. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

MFSA Website is www.mfsaiowa.org

(Canterbury Forum, continued from page 12)

Steve is a graduate of Cedar Falls High and Harvard University, and has a law degree from Drake University. He served in the Iowa State Legislature in the 1970s and 1980s, and was United States Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa, 1993-2001, before undertaking his work in international criminal justice.

For more information about the Canterbury Forums, see www.canterburyforum.net.

Missions & Outreach

March Offerings

Focus on NE Iowa Food Bank Rainbow Covenant Green

Our March Sunday School offerings will be shared with the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. The Alan Feinstein Foundation will also share donations, which will increase our giving power for the hungry.

The Food Bank currently works with over 200 agencies in 16 counties. Their programs include: Food Distribution Program, Kids Café, Operation Family Pack, Elderly Nutrition Boxes, Elderly Weekend Bags Program, and Cedar Valley Food Pantry.

With every \$1.00 we contribute, the Food Bank can provide \$13.31 worth of food.

www.northeastiowafoodbank.org

One Great Hour of Sharing Rainbow Covenant Yellow

On Sunday, March 22, we ask United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. This special offering will be designated for One Great Hour of Sharing.

The money will go to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). UMCOR is one of the first agencies on the scene whenever disaster strikes anywhere in the world and is one of the last to leave.

Meals on Wheels

Runners Needed

Runners are needed March 30-April 3 and April 6-10 to ride with designated drivers. Runners will meet at the Cedar Falls Senior Center, 524 Main, by 10:30. If you are able to volunteer, please call June Niedert.

Community Meals

March 17 at Cedar Falls First UMC

St. Timothys will be serving Community Meals on Tuesday, March 17. Since March 17 is St. Patrick's Day, let's dress up the menu.

For dessert, we'll need four sheet cakes (about 10x16") with white frosting. Decorations for the cake will be furnished.

For salads, we'll need 10 pans (about 9x12") of lime Jello with vegetables or fruits of your choice. It will take three boxes (3-oz) of Jello.

Volunteers will be needed for food preparation at 12:30, servers at 4:15, and dishes

and clean up at 5:00. We will need two to help with the dishwasher. Please contact Lois Taylor if you will be available to help.



Women at the Well

After Care Ministries

After a person has served prison time, the re-entry into society is difficult. After Care teams are “opening doors” and successfully building bridges of communication and support empowering those re-entering society to find jobs and lead successful lives. After Care teams are making a difference in lives all across Iowa and in several other states.

St. Timothys is partnering with Kimball Ave UMC to provide support and ministry to the women leaving the Mitchellville prison.

Going Home Kits

Going Home Kits, for the Women at the Well prison ministry at Mitchellville, are needed, and will include the following:

Personal products: Shampoo, conditioner, comb, hairbrush, tweezers, bar soap, liquid hand soap, washcloth and towel, deodorant, hand/body lotion, Q-tips, compact mirror, laundry soap, fabric softener, sanitary napkins, nail file and cuticle stick, (or little manicure kit), toenail clipper, nail polish and remover, perfume, phone card, wallet or small purse, small pocket calendar, inexpensive watch.

Household products: Paper towels, Kleenex, toilet paper, wet wipes, toilet bowl cleaner, cleaning rags, dish soap, all purpose cleaning spray (like 409 or Mr. Clean) dish towels and dish rags.

Please place all items in the designated blue tub in Fellowship Hall for the women leaving the Mitchellville prison.

P.I.E. Possibilities

Our Partner in Education -- Walter Cunningham School for Excellence

St. Timothys is a Partner In Education (P.I.E.) with the Walter Cunningham School for Excellence in Waterloo. This school is located in an area of need. Here are some opportunities for us to be in ministry.

Reading One on One:

There is a **need** at Cunningham for adults to read to 1st graders between 8:00 and 9:00 am Monday



through Friday. Adults would work with one child at a time for about 15 to 20 minutes. This could include helping with spelling and other subjects. If you could help with this project for one or two days a week for a few weeks or longer, please call Dick Clark, and he will get you in touch with the right people.

Hy-Vee Grocery Receipts

Please save your grocery receipts from Hy-Vee (groceries, medicines, gas, deli) and bring them to St. Timothys. You can put them in the Capps' or Latta's box in the Communicenter. The school can “cash these in” at Hy-Vee for more support.

Save other items too

Also, save empty computer printer cartridges, box tops for education (General Mills), Betty Crocker points, Milk Moola bag or bottle tops, Swiss Valley milk and juice caps. These can be put in the Capps' or Latta's boxes as well.

Thanks for your support.

Needs List for Church Women United

Remember to bring items needed for people in the Cedar Falls area. Collection bins are in the closet directly across from the main sanctuary door, between the coat closet and the name tag case. If you have questions, contact Carol Butler at 232-4991.

Please leave your labeled donations before March 9.

ALTERNATIVE PREGNANCY CENTER: Girl's clothing up to 12 months, baby wipes, newborn diapers, diaper bags, newborn sleepers, new bibles, new car seats, garbage bags, toilet paper, personal care items for mothers, 45-gallon totes, disposable camera, greeting cards, cribs, newborn-6 month clothing.

GREENWOOD, MS. MISSION SCHOOL: Canceled stamps.

CEDAR FALLS HEALTH CARE CENTER: Items for crafts, Bingo prizes, all stuffed animals, miniature candy bars, large print word find, sun-catcher crafts.

COUNTRY VIEW: Bingo prizes, stationery, writing tablets, legal pads, Search-a-word books, crayons, markers, colored pencils, coloring books, magazines for men (sporting/fishing), microwave popcorn, wrapped individual snack treats, small cans of Pringles. Things for seasonal decorating: things for room decorations, small wall hangings, outdoor games, containers (short or tall) that Crystal light comes in.

1ST KIDS FOR 1ST METHODIST: Napkins, Kleenex, construction paper, glue, fabric softener sheets.

HOUSE OF HOPE: Household items (glasses, silverware, dishes, pots & pans), cleaning supplies, things with which to decorate, diapers (size 4 & 5)

LUTHERAN HOME: Everyday napkins, 8 1/2" x11" colored computer paper, Play-Doh, fun-sized candy bars, Little Debbie snack cakes, Pringles, Avery Marks-a-lot permanent markers in red and black, small bottles of Elmer's glue, house plants, used greeting cards, every occasion, need entire card, seed and flower catalogs, plastic bud vases, lap blankets.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF: Fabric for quilts, old sheets, flannel, wrapped soap, drapery fabric, old drapes, mattress pads, spools of thread (any color), wide-toothed combs, gently used wash cloths and hand towels.

NEW CITY MINISTRIES: Laundry soap, Diapers, toilet paper.

NORTH STAR COMMUNITY SERVICES: Bingo prize items, CD's of big bands of 40's and 50's, large books, arts and crafts materials, old issues of Reminiscence, Depends, holiday decorations, cookie cutters, rolling pins, Bundt loaf pans, muffin pans, cooling racks, Kitchen-Aid mixer.

RIVER HILLS SCHOOL: Plastic grocery bags, apple-sauce, instant pudding, cake brownie and muffin mixes, muffin pan liners, Cool Whip containers with lids, any snack items, baking mixes & frosting, Hy-Vee receipts, Instant Jello Packs, juice, cake, and cookie mixes, flour, sugar, chocolate chips.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE: Pop can tabs and Scott bar codes.

SEEDS OF HOPE: Cleaning supplies, diapers, toiletries.

WINDSOR CARE: Small Bingo prizes, jewelry, word search books, stuffed animals.

Y'S KIDS: Any crafting odds and ends such as lace, ribbon, buttons, or beads, back pockets from old blue jeans, used calendars, magnets, balls & baseball gloves, used Mylar balloons, empty plastic jars with lids, empty thread spools, flowers of any kind (plastic, dried, silk), sea shells, baby food jars.

Canterbury Forum is March 8

Topic: When Peace and Justice Appear in Conflict:

Hard Choices in the Prosecution of Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, and War Crimes

Sunday, March 8, 7:00 pm. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Cedar Falls

Does the threat of prosecution for war crimes perpetuate hostilities in international and civil conflicts? Does amnesty reward those who commit atrocities, and even encourage recurrence? Does negotiating for peace with leaders responsible for atrocities betray or aid victims? These and other moral dilemmas are confronted every day by **Stephen Rapp** who is Chief Prosecutor for the UN Tribunal for Sierra Leone (2007 – present) and was previously Chief of Prosecutions for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda Genocide (2001-2007).

(Continued on page 8)

Our Witness of Inclusion

The congregation of St. Timothys United Methodist Church in Cedar Falls celebrates God's gifts as a faith community built upon the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We are called and strive to be an open, loving, and caring congregation; to proclaim Jesus' love and justice to all; and to live out God's unending love through the inclusiveness and welcoming of all persons, including those of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

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