



VOYAGEUR

FEBRUARY 2013

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

What is LENT to you?

For those who grew up Catholic (or grew up with Catholics), Lent may be most noticeably about meatless Fridays. Many people associate Lent with penance, or the requirement to prostrate yourself before God and ask forgiveness, maybe feel a little more bad about yourself than in other seasons. Some folks think they should give up sweets for the season, but have no idea *why*; it's "what has always been done". None of those are very positive associations. "I ought to feel bad" is not a mantra for drawing closer to God.

Lent is a mysterious season when, Gertrud Mueller Nelson says, "the Church suggests that we engage our death and that we go about it as a community or as a family.... Conscious engagement of suffering and death forces us to take stock of our gift of life and consider ways of reforming and living our lives more fully and passionately." When we are able to walk with Jesus toward the cross—and the empty tomb!—we are bound to come face to face with the misunderstandings, losses and failures, separations and loneliness, and fears that we know deep down in our lives. Suffering is a part of our life, a part that we tend to avoid at all costs. In Lent, we can enter into those griefs with Jesus beside us, not in order to suffer for suffering's sake but to find the hope of Christ in the midst of that which is most difficult and painful. Suffering is not just what we experience, but also what we have caused in the lives of others – an even more difficult issue to address, because it requires our repentance and our desire for changed lives.

We can affirm in this season that **God is with us** ("us": individually and communally) **and redeems what is lost, resurrects what is dying or dead in our lives, and restores us to relationship!** In our worship, in our prayer and reflection time, in our relationships with one another and with the world, Lent is like the labor that leads to birth: holy, wise, and productive, even through the pain.

Last year at our denomination's General Conference, an Act of Repentance & Healing Relationships with Indigenous Persons was held. This worship service was an invitation to a journey on the part of our churches and our denomination. Indigenous Methodists, including Native Americans, spoke of the systemic sins that have been committed against their people over many years, and the church was faced with these questions:

- How do we repent, that is, make an "about face" or turnaround?
- How do we identify our own racism in the church in order to give it a good funeral?
- How shall we live differently in order to sincerely and authentically make a journey of faith with indigenous people? To become a genuine Body of Christ?

Some folks criticized the Act of Repentance because, they said, What difference does a fancy worship service do if there is no real response—study, action—by the people in the churches?

There is a study out now, which seems fitting for our engagement of the Lenten season. I hope you will join me for **Walking the Trail of Repentance & Healing with Indigenous Persons** on Thursdays (Feb. 14, 21, 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21) at 12:10 – 1:00 p.m. Please bring a brown-bag lunch with you and make your lunch hour a time of sharing, listening, repentance, and restoration. If your job doesn't allow you to be here on Thursdays, I will have notes for reflection and discussion and will try (!) to make the video segment for each session available on our website. As a church community that is located in the midst of a large Native American population, I think we have things to learn together... and be freed to be Christ's body in this place in a new way. I hope you will come!

With hope for new life in Christ,

Pastor Hay

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMINDERS, COMMUNITY EVENTS, DATES, ETC.

SUNDAY MORNING
 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 / SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45

OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTORAL AVAILABILITY: Tuesdays 1:00—3:00pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 10:00am—noon, or by appointment

Regular Church Office Hours
9:00am—3:00pm Mon—Fri

Phone: 218-751-3503

FOR AFTER HOURS
AND EMERGENCIES:

Rev. Gay Albers—766-7352

If you wish for a pastoral home visit or hospital visit, or know someone who needs or desires a visit, please call the church office.

JUST A REMINDER....

Articles for the March 2013 newsletter are due in the office no later than 8:00am on Friday, February 22, 2012.

Any announcements you wish to have in the Sunday bulletin must be called in, emailed, or delivered to the office by noon on Thursdays.

THANK YOU!



Bemidji United Methodist Church, 2012
 Revenue and Expenses by month (not including special offerings)

	Jan*	Feb*	Mar*	Apr*	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec**	Totals
Income	\$30,560	\$14,889	\$15,810	\$21,276	\$20,126	\$16,823	\$19,160	\$14,877	\$20,702	\$27,366	\$13,602	\$15,912	\$231,103
Expenses	\$25,407	\$19,748	\$18,513	\$21,131	\$22,415	\$11,551	\$17,320	\$18,240	\$14,938	\$15,842	\$16,174	\$40,257	\$241,536

*monthly apportionment paid to conference

**Balance of apportionments paid = \$20,188

\$500 deducted each month from Apple Blossom Day Care Building Use Income—pass through to missions

Email Addresses: Church Office, Charity: umcbji@paulbunyan.net
 Pastor Gay: galbers@paulbunyan.net
 Krista Coyle: kcoyle@paulbunyan.net
Mailing Address: PO Box 607, Bemidji, MN 56619
Street Address: 924 Beltrami Avenue, Bemidji MN 56601

FEBRUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 BUMC 101B	28 5:00 UMMHC Family Meeting	29 11:00 Staff Meeting Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 6:30 Square Dance Lessons	30 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health NO Youth Group 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	31 5:00 Youth serving Soup Kitchen 6:00 T'ai Chi Chih	1 Noon Peace Prayer Group 6:30-8:00 Lotus Zen Meditation	2 9:30 Yoga
3 COMMUNION SUNDAY FOOD SHELF SUNDAY 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service 2:00 Square Dance	4 5:00 UMMHC Family Meeting	5 11:00 Staff Meeting Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 6:30 Faith and Fellowship 6:30 Square Dance Lessons	6 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group NO Choir Rehears- al	7 5:00 Soup Kitchen 6:00 T'ai Chi Chih	8 6:30-8:00 Lotus Zen Meditation	9 9:30 Yoga 10:00 Prayer Shawl Mtg
10 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School	11 6:00 Relay For Life Team Captain Kick Off Meeting 7:00 RFL Committee Meeting	12 11:00 Staff Meeting Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 6:30 Square Dance Lessons 6:30 Trustees Meeting	13 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Ash Wednes- day Service	14 5:00 Soup Kitchen 6:00 T'ai Chi Chih	15 6:30-8:00 Lotus Zen Meditation 7:30 Square Dance	16 9:30 Yoga
17 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service	18	19 11:00 Staff Meeting Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 6:30 Square Dance Lessons	20 9:15 BMW 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	21 5:00 Soup Kitchen 5:00 SPRC Meeting 6:00 T'ai Chi Chih 6:30 Finance Meeting	22 6:30-8:00 Lotus Zen Meditation NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23 9:30 Yoga
24 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School	25	26 11:00 Staff Meeting Noon and 5:30 Yoga 5:30 AA 6:30 Square Dance Lessons	27 10:00 ROMEOs at Sanford Health 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Choir Re- hearsal	28 5:00 Soup Kitchen 6:00 Stamp- ing Group	1 Noon World Day of Prayer Noon Peace Prayer Group 6:30-8:00 Lotus Zen Meditation 7:30 Square Dance	2 9:30 Yoga

**924 Beltrami Ave
PO Box 607
Bemidji, MN 56619-0607**

**Office number (218) 751-3503
umcbji@paulbunyan.net
Web Site: www.bemidjiumc.com**

Worship Service Volunteers February 2013

If you cannot fulfill your Sunday of volunteering please find a replacement and let the church office (751-3503) know who your replacement is.

USHERS and GREETERS

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 3</u> Lorne and Verna Lofberg</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 10</u> Merril Thiel and Ruth Howe</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 17</u> Victor Mosser and Sandra Kranz</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 24</u> Tony and Carla Nicholson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 3</u> Randall Burg and Carol Nielsen</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 10</u> Frenzel family</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 17</u> Red and Darlene Wilson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 24</u> Michelle Crow</p>
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Usher and Greeter Coordinator: Karren Clark

COMMUNION STEWARDS: Knudson family

READERS	COFFEE SERVERS	NURSERY
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 3</u> Dave Dahlberg</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 10</u> Kendall Dahlberg</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 17</u> Ruth Howe</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 24</u> Marcia Roline</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reader Coordinator Becky Lueben</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 3</u> De Pickett and Lo Sorensen</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 10</u> Dave Holles and Lorne Lofberg</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 17</u> Doris Pierce and Elaine Clark</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 24</u> Nancy Holles and Elizabeth Olson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Coffee Servers from BMW Coordinator Skippy Larson</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 3</u> Cheyenne Stowe</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 10</u> Greg Roberts</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 17</u> Dacia Dauner</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 24</u> Michelle Crow</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Nursery Coordinator Dacia Dauner</i></p>

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Please celebrate and pray for these people on their birthday.

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Arlys Frazey | 17 | Velma Wesloh |
| 2 | Ruth Blackburn | 18 | Betty Brooks
Bev Bryant |
| 3 | Dawn Cullifer | | |
| 4 | Henry Bellefy
Beverly Leet | 19 | William Bruers
Daniel Roberts |
| 5 | Karren Clark
Sharon Israelson | 21 | Mindy Bowman |
| 8 | Maury Sullivan | 23 | Lee Ann Hess
Verna Lofberg
Becky Lueben |
| 9 | Wag Collins
Jan Lohstrefer | 25 | Justin St. Pierre |
| 10 | Rita Albrecht
Claire Coyle
Sharon Ruberg | 27 | Kennedy Frenzel
Weezie Johnson |
| 12 | Marjory Beck
Terry Bradley
Angie Dahlberg | | |
| 14 | Ian Hess | | |
| 15 | Bernice Matt
Barb Pommerening
Bruno Porro | | |
| 16 | John Herath | | |

If your birthday or anniversary or the birthday or anniversary of a parishioner is missed here, please call Charity at the office so it will be included in the Sunday bulletin and future Voyagers.

BEMIDJI METHODIST WOMEN

The Bemidji Methodist Women (BMW) will meet at 9:15am on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 in the church lounge. Refreshments will be served.

We were happy to have some new ladies last month and hope that they will keep coming.

Program—Boys and Girls Club speaker Andrea Ohnstad

Devotions—Molly Miron

Meeting—Verna Lofberg, President, will conduct a short meeting

Hostesses—Nancy Holles and Helen LeClaire

BMW will be coffee servers for February.

World Day of Prayer is March 1, 2013. We are hostesses this year. The topic is France.

BMW Sunday will be April 14, 2013—Special Mission's Recognition

BMW will host the soup kitchen on May 30, 2013.

All the nuts have been sold. Thank you for supporting us.

COME AND JOIN US ON THE 20TH.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE. . .

- ... at **Neilson Place**: Henrietta Britton, Trudy Ditty, Howard Blehm
- ... at **Trillium**: Nelle May, Marjory Beck
- ... at **Windsong**: Margaret Skinner, Bill Britton, Will and Jean Leaf, Verona Haluptzok, Wag Collins, Eunice Flynn, Marian Blehm, Ardis Gillett
- ... at **Birch Haven**: Lois Statton, Betty Howard
- ... at **Havenwood Care Center**: Patty Boyer, Ruth Blackburn, Walt Scott, Alice Collins
- ... at **Goldpine #4**: Laura Hays, Dorothy Sathre
- ... at **ElderCare**: Pearl Mock
- ... at **Eagle's View Foster Home**: Robert Ray
- ... at **Touch of Home**: Don Mook
- ... in nursing care in **Staples**: Betty Roline (Marcia's mother in law)
- ... undergoing cancer treatment: Chris Shomenta, Robert Smith, Sandra Herath, Walt Scott
- ... recovering at home: Neil Bryant, Danny Stowe, Mary Hoody, Hedi Deeter
- ... serving in the military and veterans
- ... those rebuilding their lives after Hurricane Sandy
- ... our country's leaders and people, that we might be a blessing to all nations
- ... Crystal Whitson
- ... Kris Gebhard, son of Rev. Duane & Jennifer Gebhard, who is in rehab following a biking accident.
- ... Michelle Seibel and her family as they deal with the death of her father, Chuck Ramthun.



BEMIDJI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:
MINUTES OF CHARGE CONFERENCE MEETING, JANUARY 13, 2013

Randy Burg, Church Council Chair/Lay Leader, called the meeting to order, reading the December 14, 2012 letter from Rev. Alan Bolte authorizing a special charge/church conference at BUMC.

Pastor Gay Albers led us in a short time of worship and celebration.

Sandra Kranz, Finance Chair, shared the proposed church Budget for 2013. Randy commended the Finance Committee for their time, expertise, and commitment on behalf of the church. Sandra shared the proposed budget (white sheet) and explained that, in spite of economic uncertainty, the people of our church paid **over** their pledged amount. She noted that we are paying our apportionments in full this year, which brought applause. Sandra pointed out small differences between our actual expenses this year ('12) and our projected expenses next year ('13). There were no questions from the floor.

Randy spoke to the issue of apportionments. Finance committee made a one-time, exceptional decision to withdraw \$6K from our church savings account to complete our apportionment payment for this year, feeling that our financial support to our larger church body is critical to our ministry at BUMC. The discussion leading to that decision was long and thoughtful, and the decision was not unanimous. The committee felt – overall – that we don't want the investment of our faith to be confined within the four walls of this church. Randy respectfully thanked John Robinson for continuing to urge us –as a congregation, and as Finance Committee – to pay our apportionments. Stewardship and Apportionment education with the congregation in this next year is imperative, so that we can continue to meet our apportionment commitment *through our pledged budget*.

Judy Comstock reported on the work of SPRC, including staff compensation. The pastoral compensation package for Pastor Gay was already voted on (brief congregational meeting in November, before our cluster charge conference in Park Rapids). We saved some money on staff salaries after Kathy Douglas resigned and before Krista Coyle was hired as Ministries Coordinator; Krista was also brought in at a slightly lower salary as a new staff member. Charity Yoder Smith, secretary, has received a small raise; SPRC felt it was important to concretely acknowledge Charity's many gifts and contributions and her value as an employee. Perry Schack, our custodian, has been an asset in maintaining the building. Randy thanked SPRC for their work.

John Robinson, Financial Secretary with Sandra Robinson, addressed Stewardship & Pledges (white sheet). John spoke of the generosity of the congregation. He also said we need to grow, numerically, in order to continue to support the budget. He reminded us to be welcoming to newcomers.

Since there were no further questions, Lorne Lofberg moved that we accept the budget as proposed. Jean Slinkman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Pastor Gay presented the report of inactive/unresponsive members (green sheet), describing briefly what "inactive and unresponsive" means and how our church is in contact with those persons. No additional comments or revisions. Tom Gray moved that we approve the report. Diane Morris seconded. The motion passed.

Pastor Gay gave the nominations/lay leadership report (yellow) in Karren Clark's absence. *Corrections were made:* Nancy Holles is no longer the funeral coordinator, and Verna Lofberg is taking up that position (p. 4). De Pickett noted that two organizations –Northwoods Caregivers and Habitat for Humanity – were not listed

continued on page 9

continued from page 8

under “Missions/Church and Society”. We added those; De volunteered to be the contact/coordinating person for both agencies. Becky Lueben’s name should not appear under “homebound visitation”.

We removed the names of Kristen McRae, Marcia Roline, and Becky Lueben from YAEC and added John Robinson, Kari Knudson, and Jenny Frenzel. Verna Lofberg is the new BMW President. There remain numerous openings on our committees. Those present at the charge conference were urged to give prayerful consideration to persons who might fill those roles (and to contact a member of the Nominations/Lay Leadership committee or Pastor Gay with ideas). De Pickett moved that we accept the nominations/lay leadership report; Ruth Howe seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lo Sorensen called attention to the 3-year time limit/rotation for church committee members: people being recruited for church leadership positions need to know that they are agreeing to a limited time of service. All our church committees need—ideally—to operate by a 3-year rotation cycle for leadership. Lo asked if there was a UM policy about non-members chairing church committees. The Book of Discipline states that only members of Trustees are required to be professing members, as they function as official “chairpersons of the corporation”. There was discussion of the history of capable and dedicated “non-members” who have chaired committees in this church. Kim Smith suggested that we need more frequent New Member classes if we are to integrate in/educate new members about opportunities to serve.

Kurt Kastella reported for the Trustees Committee. Kurt acknowledged Sandy Sterr and others for their tremendous work in cleaning the church this fall. He discussed roof leaks that have plagued the church through the year. BUMC did have roofing replaced/repared in the past year. Recently, Trustees found the source of the leak in the Narthex: the church bell tower (which will be addressed in the spring). [We also had the stained-glass windows taken out and re-framed this summer.] Upcoming needs/expenses are: elevator maintenance, choir seating, and lighting issues in the sanctuary. The Organ Committee is moving ahead with fundraising and plans for renovation of the organ; Terry Bradley, a member of Trustees, is chairing that committee. Randy thanked the Trustees for their work.

Krista Coyle talked about the Youth program. She is using Youth Ministry Architecture to give more structure and planning to the youth program. The youth have been serving meals at the People’s Church monthly as a mission/outreach activity. She also has the goal of reintegrating youth back into the larger ministry of the church.

Pastor Gay expressed gratitude for the depth of spiritual content of our youth programming under Krista’s leadership, as well as for the excellence of our whole church staff. She spoke briefly about the upcoming Visioning Process for our church, which will help us move into a faithful future with more clarity about our ministry here. Pastor Gay dismissed us with a blessing.

Respectfully submitted by Pastor Gay Albers.



Give a Valentine Gift that Gives Twice

UMCOR Coffee Project offers amazing gourmet chocolate, wrapped in hearts, ready to be the perfect gift for remembering special people on Valentine’s Day. Pair a chocolate bar with a bag of coffee or tea for that someone special. Bars: \$2.75 or 2/\$5.00; 24 minis@\$4.00; Valentine mugs \$5.00. All Fair trade, all delicious. BUMC IS making a difference, one cup and candy bar at a time.





NEW MEMBER SUNDAY!

we will be welcoming new members officially into our fellowship on Sunday, February 17, at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. if you are interested in joining, please let pastor gay know (751-3503).



What's the Word?

A new Bible study group! Whether you are a bible scholar or a newbie, join us for sharing, learning, and fellowship on Wednesdays in the Chapel at 3:00 p.m. We hope to move the study to Windsong soon so more of us can participate!



SING!

Youth Choir is starting for ages 4th grade and up! Come Sunday, February 11, 4-5 p.m. and make some awesome noise to the Lord with Jessie Fisher and your friends!

Compassion Cradles Grief-Stricken Newtown

*By Susan Kim**

January 8, 2013—From Newtown United Methodist Church, Mary Hughes Gaudreau could see a makeshift memorial; the small two-lane road that leads through the Sandy Hook village was congested with people coming and going.

“What struck me about the community was that they were on a pilgrimage,” said Gaudreau, a US Disaster Response consultant for UMCOR, who traveled to Connecticut for four days just before Christmas to help guide the church's immediate and long-term spiritual and emotional care. The church has been a center of spiritual solace—and a magnet for national media—in the wake of the shooting deaths of 28 people, including 20 children from the nearby Sandy Hook Elementary School. “People really wanted to do something. That desire to act was coupled with a powerful sense of reverence,” she said. “People were very quiet, and people of all ages were extremely polite. Some people were handing out flowers to anyone who happened to be walking by.”

The church—and in essence the entire community—became a place where people drew together to collectively, often silently, say: this violence is not who we are as human beings. “This was a very raw situation,” said Gaudreau, “and what the church offered was a strong sense of people who want to believe better about humanity.” People across the nation—and even worldwide—want to reach out, and it's challenging to try to channel their desire to do something, said Gaudreau. Plans are still underway for future outlets for wider memorial contributions as Newtown UMC continues to serve its local community.

UMCOR's support for Newtown UMC is an assurance to the local community that the larger church is with them during a profoundly painful time, said Gaudreau, who continues to help guide the church's clergy and laity about the trajectory of trauma recovery. “We do know that there will be long-term impacts from what happened.” Gaudreau said the strong leadership within the church, including Senior Pastor Mel Kawakami, Associate Pastor Jane Sibley, and Deacon Sue Klein, will help shape a vision for future healing. “The pastoral and lay leadership of Newtown UMC is providing outstanding, compassionate, and insightful leadership through one of the most challenging times in their church's history,” she said.

Many in Newtown UMC and the entire Sandy Hook community hope that in the coming weeks their hometown will become a national symbol of hope, and not one of violence. “Amid the reality of suffering, there is this profound belief that suffering will not have the last word,” said Gaudreau. “It won't. I believe that.”

**Susan Kim is a journalist and a regular contributor to www.umcor.org.*

**FEBRUARY
2013**

Youth & Family News

**Did you know
February is
National
"Boost Your
Self-Esteem"
Month?**



BUMC Little One Julia

FAITH LIKE A CHILD

We love all of our little ones at BUMC! We celebrated some of the newest ones with a cradle-rocking ceremony in January.

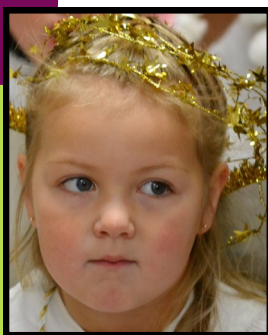
Maybe today is a great time to take a moment to pray for our children... and all children.

Children are not the future of the church, they are our church **RIGHT NOW!**

**MATTHEW 18:3
MARK 10:15
LUKE 18:17**

What are some ways we can help our little ones grow in faith?

What does it mean to have "faith like a child?"



BUMC Little One Grace

The Power of Partnering in Prayer

We are planning to "revive" the Prayer Partners program at BUMC, only with this program, your partner won't be a secret! Prayer is a powerful thing, our way of talking with God, and is strengthened when we pray with other people! Ecclesiastes chapter 4 is a scriptural reference for the idea "two are better than one." And Ecclesiastes 4:12 specifically says that "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." You are one strand of that cord, your prayer partner is another strand, and God is the third strand! This program will be developing next month, and we would like to hear from all in the congregation who are interested! We will likely pair younger people with those who have more experience in prayer. Please watch for more information to come out in a future weekly all-church email and in the Sunday bulletin. We hope you will consider participating in this new version of the traditional program.



BUMC Friends Hope & Dotty



Youth Group Fundraising News

Youth Group decided to cancel its annual Chili Take-Out Fundraiser after realizing that instead of actually raising funds, the traditional event was actually *costing* the Youth Group money! And while bonding over a batch of chili could be a good thing, we have decided to respect families' time and money. We apologize to those the cancellation affected in a negative way, but we want the congregation to know that we have dedicated ourselves to finding smarter, savvier ways of raising funds for the future, and we welcome any new ideas!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- First Children's Choir rehearsal set tentatively for Sunday, Feb 10th from 4-5pm at BUMC
- BUMC New Member Sunday is set for February 17th
- YAEC Meeting Sunday, February 24th after church in the Chapel
- BUMC Youth Group All-Nighter and Tubing Trip is set for Friday, March 1st at 3pm, beginning at Buena Vista Ski Area and ending at BUMC. Pick-up time on Saturday is 8am.



**Bill & Zach during
Christmas Program**

Long-Term Planning for Youth Group

Youth Group is trying to accomplish some long-range planning, as one step in a process to make itself a more “sustainable” group. Here’s a quick look at we have tentatively planned by month for 2013 so far; schedule was set with input from Youth Group members:

February: (Chili Take-Out canceled)

March: BUMC Tubing Trip, All Nighter, & Rock-A-Thon

April: Parents’ Night Out / Parents’ Day Out Fundraiser

May: Mother’s Day Brunch

June: Bigger & Better Contest, Holy Heaps Sale

July: Independence Day Parade Concessions Sales, Star Lake Camping Trip

August: Church Lot Sunday Car Wash

September: (no events/trips)

October: Missions/Valley Fair Trip

November: (no events/trips)

December: Christmas Gift Carnival

Getting Permission: BUMC Media Release Form

Did you notice the pictures of our good-looking BUMC kids in this month’s Youth and Family News? Out of respect for their safety and privacy, we asked their parents for permission before using their photographs! In fact, as social media become a more valuable outreach tool for BUMC, we realize the importance of being more aware of the words and images we share. This awareness includes respecting individual choices, so we would like to get your permission before we use any discernible photo of your (or your child’s) face in any form of BUMC media! We ask that every adult fill out and return a release form (included in this newsletter) to the BUMC office by mail, offering plate, handing it to a staff member, or even taping it to our office door!



**BUMC MEDIA RELEASE FORM
FOR ADULTS & MINORS**

I, _____, do hereby give Bemidji United Methodist Church, their employees, volunteers, and representatives the irrevocable right to use my name, picture, portrait, photograph, image, or voice in all forms and media and in all manners, including composite or purpose, and I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written copy, that may be created in connection therewith.

I agree that this releases Bemidji United Methodist Church and any and all of its representatives from any and all monetary obligations or payments to me or any or all of my authorized representatives for use of video, films, photographs, image and/or voice of myself.

I have read this release and am familiar with its contents, and I am of full legal age or have legal consent for a minor as appears below.

Name		Address	
Date		Signed	

CONSENT FOR MINOR

I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor named above and have the legal authority to execute the above release. I approve the foregoing and waive any rights in the premises.

Name		Address	
Date		Signed	

OPTING OUT

I do NOT give permission for the use of my name, picture, portrait, photograph, image, or voice in any form of media or in any manner.

Name		Address	
Date		Signed	

Please list any minors in your household for whom you choose to OPT OUT:

--

Northwoods Caregivers

As a church we received a thank you from Northwoods Caregivers for being a Member Congregation. What does this mean? First of all I am the contact for our church following in the footsteps of Elaine Hazard who was one of the first supporters of the program. We have been a Member Congregation since 1999. Our contributions support mileage costs for volunteers serving in this area.

Some accomplishments for 2012 for Northwoods Caregivers:

Provided over 30,500 (recorded) hours of direct care giving

Added 108 new care-receivers and 26 new volunteers

Continued supervised visitation and safe exchanges for 88 visits and 154 exchanges

Provided over 5,000 hours of respite care

Provided almost 4000 other volunteer services (shopping, paperwork assistance and companionship)

Held training sessions and educational workshops

Spearheaded Senior Community Clean Up Day with 300 volunteers serving 80 homes

And other activities including more than **100,000 miles for volunteers and providers and impacted 5,538 individual community member's lives!**

Our church has contributed over \$1,854 to Northwoods Caregivers this year plus volunteer hours. In 2011, over \$10,000 was paid out in mileage reimbursement to volunteers for the 20,000 miles of transportation services they provided in their own vehicles. This reflects only the 35% of volunteers that need to claim reimbursement. The majority of volunteers gave this service as a gift. Without your support this service would not be able to be provided. If you would like to know more or volunteer with Northwoods Caregivers you may call them at 333-8264 or talk to me.

De Pickett
556-8988

Vic and I would like to thank all of you who have expressed your condolences verbally and through cards and held our family in your thoughts and prayers since my son Wes passed away on November 15. I can't tell you how much you all mean to us and how much we appreciate your fellowship and friendship.

Sandra Kranz

FOOD SHELF NEEDS...



The food shelf is in need of several things:

- Egg Cartons
- Plastic Bags (please just fold them—no knots)
- Magazines (fairly recent)

Please bring these items along with any food donations to the church and put them in the red Food Shelf Cart. They will be taken to the food shelf. Thank you!

BEMIDJI UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

924 Beltrami Ave
PO Box 607
Bemidji, MN 56619-0607

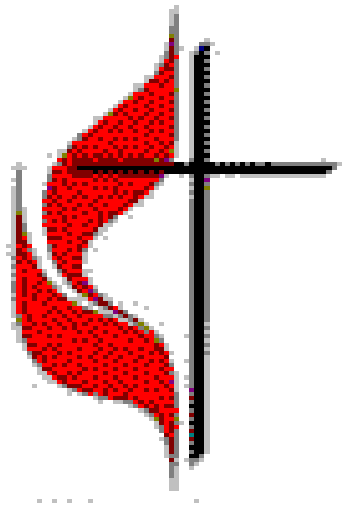
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Caretaker/Custodian

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