

BAY MESSENGER

JANUARY 2009

10 a.m. Sunday School

10 a.m. Sunday Worship

Child care available

PASTOR'S CORNER

REV. AL HUBLER TO PREACH

Sunday, January 18, Rev. Bill will be out of the pulpit. Pastor Emeritus Rev. Al Hubler will preach that day. We welcome Rev. Al and Lois back among us. For those of you who are newer to Bay UMC, Rev. Al was pastor here from 1983 to 1995.

REV. BILL TO ATTEND

NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST CONVENTION

Rev. Bill will be one of eighteen leaders from the East Ohio Conference who will join with over 1,000 other United Methodists from across the country at the General Board of Discipleship's Quadrennial Training in Jacksonville, Florida, from January 29 through February 1. Rev. Bill is included in this event because of his role as the chairperson of the East Ohio Annual Conference Stewardship Committee. The four-fold focus of this workshop will be:

- Leadership Development
- Congregational Development
- Elimination of Poverty in Community with the Poor
- Global Health

Rev. Bill's workshop focus throughout these days will remain on stewardship, but he will bring back resources to be used here at Bay United Methodist Church, as well as to assist other churches in our district and conference.

WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE

On Sunday, January 4, Bay UMC's morning worship service will allow all of us to renew our faith using Wesley's Covenant Service. During John Wesley's ministry, each year he used a service with his followers that has now come to be called "Wesley's Covenant Service." During this service participants renew their faith and the promises made when they promised to follow Jesus through baptism and church membership vows. We will renew our covenant with Jesus Christ and then celebrate the Sacrament of Communion. You won't want to miss this meaningful, and historic, service.



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BREAD BAKERS WANTED

Do you like to bake? Would you be willing to bake a loaf of bread to be used for communion at Bay UMC? Each month when we celebrate communion, there is a loaf of bread on the altar which is broken as part of the ritual of the day when we remember, "On the night on which he was crucified, the Lord Jesus took bread . . ."

If you would be willing to bake this loaf of bread one or two times per year, please see Rev. Bill so he can schedule those who are interested in serving this ministry.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Bill". The script is cursive and fluid, with a large initial 'B'.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

CIRCLE NEWS

Sarah Ruth Circle

Wednesday, January 21

9:30 a.m., Parlor

The Bay Historical Society will give a talk and slide show about their 200th anniversary being held in 2010.

Lydia Circle

Tuesday, January 26

7 p.m., Parlor

Betty Bauer will give the program on Mission Study.

Devotions—Diane McGregor

Hostess—Diane McGregor



CIRCLE OF HOPE

The new UMW multi-generational women's group now has a name!!!

Circle of Hope

**(Hearts Open to Possibilities
and Experiences)**

Meets the second Sunday of the month

Next meeting

Sunday, January 11

7 p.m.

Parlor

All are welcome!

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to the following persons who helped decorate our church for Advent:

Rev. Bill and Sheila Buckeye

Nancy Geschke

Larry Johnson

Barbara Myers

Tom and Sue Roehl

Dorothy Stewart

David and Alex Thum

Judy Trask

Mark and Jacque Ward

Jan York

All your hard work is greatly appreciated.

Susan Johnson

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions to be counted for the year 2008 should be dated no later than December 31, 2008, and in the church office no later than noon on Sunday, January 4, 2009. Please be sure to clearly mark your intentions as to the year that your contribution should be posted.

Should you have any questions, call Patti Thomas, Financial Secretary, 440-871-2082.



MISSION ON THE WEB

Bay UMC pays “Shared Ministry Askings,” also often referred to as “apportionments.”

Do you want to see examples of what those dollars do? Visit www.umcor.org on the internet and find out!



FROM OUR MAILBAG . . .

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the many thoughtful and kind cards of condolence. They were a comfort to me at a time when I truly appreciated feeling your support to get me through a difficult time. Also, your phone calls, visits, hugs, and smiles have been heart-warming. It is a joy to be part of such a wonderful, loving church family.

Warm regards,
Connie Vannucci

Thanks to all of you who supported me after my recent surgery. I was cheered by your visits and cards and appreciated the gifts of delicious food. I especially appreciated your prayers. I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Blessings,
Judy Groeneweg

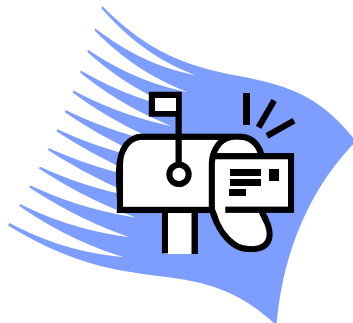
Dear Bay UMC,

Thank you for your recent donation to the WSEM Food Center at Near West.

Each month 400 families are receiving a 3-day supply of food to help them provide nourishment in their homes. Each week, more than 550 children and adults are getting a hot meal and comfort at the Community Meals on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Near West served more than 28,000 hot meals last year.

Because of the kindness of people like you, the WSEM Food Center at Near West is able to respond to the needs of its families — every gift makes a difference as we strive to help people in our community.

Jerry Partyka
Program Coordinator



ADULT STUDIES MINISTRY

The Sunday morning Adult Studies Class will be finishing its Advent series on December 21, with the theme for the final lesson being Salvation. A venerable film portraying Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" will provide the stimulus for our discussion with the excerpt in which Scrooge is confronted by the Ghost of Christmas Future. As Scrooge considers how he might atone for his miserly ways we, too, can look at our own shortcomings and what the Future might hold for us.

From January 4 through 25 the class will view a series of interviews with prominent theologians and religious workers.

They discuss their lives, goals achieved and those still to be completed, as well as their thoughts on religion and life.

From February 11 through 22 George Reash will present a four-session series on the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German theologian and Lutheran pastor who was executed by the Nazis for his involvement in the resistance movement.

The Sunday morning class will be moving into Lenten programming on March 1. Once again, we would welcome your presence, even if you have not attended before. Arrive unannounced on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Parlor!

For those interested in Bible Study, Betty Bauer will be starting a study of The Book of Psalms on Tuesday, January 6. Her class will meet in the Upper Room at 9:30 a.m.

During January JJ Perrine will be starting a women's study, "You Matter More Than You Think." Class members will acquire a better appreciation for the differences they are already making in the world. Look for more details about time and place as they are determined.

GET READY FOR EPIPHANY

Many Christian denominations celebrate Epiphany each year on or near January 6. "Epiphany," which means "showing forth," celebrates the visit of the magi, or wise men, to the baby Jesus. These men, also known as kings, saw the star that led them to Bethlehem.

The fact that these wise men were Gentiles, not Jews, teaches us an important theological lesson: Their search for the Savior shows that Jesus came for all people.

In 1875, Philip Bliss wrote the hymn, "the Light of the World Is Jesus." The first stanza captures the meaning of Epiphany, a season of light:

The whole world was lost
In the darkness of sin,
The Light of the world is Jesus!
Like sunshine at noonday,
His glory shone in.
The Light of the world is Jesus!



Lord of heaven and earth, prosper thou us this year even as our soul prospereth. Let thy presence go with us. Be thou the Companion of our way.

In our home, grant that we may cheerfully welcome thee as our daily Guest. In our relationships with others, teach us to practice the Golden Rule.

In all our seeking, grant that we seek first thy kingdom and righteousness.

- 17th-century prayer

“THE WORD IN JANUARY”

January 4—Wesley’s Covenant Service

Celebrate the Sacrament of Communion and renew your faith and the promises made when you promised to follow Jesus through baptism and church membership vows.

January 11— Genesis 1:1-5; Mark 1:9-11

“Where It All Starts”

Sacrament of Baptism

January 18— The Rev. Al Hubler, preaching

January 25— Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Mark 1:14-20

“Jonah, Jesus, and God’s Justice”



If you have a student in college, please call the church office, 440-871-2082, with his/her address. We like to send the *MESSENGER* to our college students.

PLEASE NOTIFY

THE CHURCH OFFICE

of any birth, death, marriage, hospitalization, change of address, or change of email address



When you change e-mail addresses, don't forget to notify the church!

GO PAPERLESS — GET THE MESSENGER ON LINE!

Because we are actively striving to be good stewards and due to the increasing cost of publishing the *MESSENGER*, we encourage you to view the *MESSENGER* from our website.

E-mail carolsue_bumc@sbcglobal.net, and we will take you off our “snail” mail list. You will receive a notice by e-mail each month letting you know that the new issue is on our web site, www.bayumc.org.

WELLNESS MINISTRY

THE EXERCISE HABIT

Here are some tips that will help you start and stick with an exercise program:

- ◆ **Choose something you like to do.** Make sure it suits you physically, too. For instance, swimming is easier on arthritic joints.
- ◆ **Get a partner.** Exercising with a friend or relative can make it more fun.
- ◆ **Vary your routine.** You may be less likely to get bored or injured if you change your exercise routine. Walk one day. Bicycle the next. Consider activities like dancing and racquet sports, and even chores like vacuuming or mowing the lawn.
- ◆ **Choose a comfortable time of day.** Don't work out too soon after eating or when it's too hot or cold outside. Wait until later in the day if you're too stiff in the morning.
- ◆ **Don't get discouraged.** It can take weeks or months before you notice some of the changes from exercise, such as weight loss.
- ◆ **Forget "no pain, no gain."** While a little soreness is normal after you first start exercising, pain isn't. Take a break if you hurt or if you are injured.
- ◆ **Make exercise fun.** Read, listen to music or watch TV while riding a stationary bicycle, for example. Find fun things to do, like taking a walk through the zoo. Go dancing. Learn how to play a sport you enjoy, such as tennis.

SNEAK EXERCISE INTO YOUR DAY

- ◆ Take the stairs instead of the elevator.
- ◆ Go for a walk during your coffee break or lunch.
- ◆ Walk all or part of the way to work.
- ◆ Do housework at a fast pace.
- ◆ Rake leaves or do other yard work.

BENEFITS OF REGULAR EXERCISE

- ◆ Reduces your risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, diabetes and obesity.
- ◆ Keeps joints, tendons and ligaments flexible, which makes it easier to move around.
- ◆ Reduces some of the effects of aging.
- ◆ Contributes to your mental well-being and helps treat depression.
- ◆ Helps relieve stress and anxiety.
- ◆ Increases your energy and endurance.
- ◆ Helps you sleep better.
- ◆ Helps you maintain a normal weight by increasing your metabolism (the rate you burn calories).





UMW SOUP SUPPER

Saturday, January 31, 2008

5—7 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Home made soups

Salads

Breads

Desserts

Beverages

\$8 Adult

\$4 Child (5—12 years)

\$7 Senior Citizen (55 & over)

YOUR IRA CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH

In early October, Congress passed legislation to allow donors to make charitable gifts (including gifts to the church) directly from their IRAs.

When you transfer the gift directly from your account to the church, you do not have to recognize that withdrawal as income, and it counts against your mandatory minimum distribution for the year. For most donors, the net result is a “tax neutral” gift and provides the same benefits as if you itemized your tax deductions.

You can use this for any gifts you want to make to the church, from your usual

weekly offering to special gifts.

Some important things to remember:

- ◆ Donors must be age 70 1/2 or older
- ◆ Gifts must go directly from your account to the church. If you receive the funds and then write a check to the church, you will not receive the tax benefits.
- ◆ Currently this opportunity expires at the end of 2009. You may want to consider doing some or all of your 2010 giving during 2009.
- ◆ Traditional or Roth IRAs are eligible.

◆ Gifts count toward your required minimum distribution for the year.

◆ You can give up to \$100,000 per year. Couples with separate IRAs can double this amount.

For more information or to request a distribution to the church, contact your plan administrator. After you make the request, please notify the church office so we can be sure to credit you with the gift when it is received.



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OUR MISSION STATEMENT
To live the example of Jesus Christ.



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William G. Zurkey, Organist

JJ Perrine, Nursery Staff

Angie Manos, Nursery Staff

Kimberly Pils, Nursery Staff

Nicole Moyer,, Nursery Staff

Emmett & Jeanne Beckham, Weekday Custodians