

The Messenger

St. John's United Methodist Church

Spencer, WV

February 2012

Michael Ludle- Pastor

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*From the Pastor's Desk
February 2012*

“You ask, “But how do we return?” “Begin by being honest. Do honest people rob God? But you rob me day after day.” “You ask, how have we robbed you?” The tithe and offering — that’s how!” Malachi 3: 7-8 The Message.

It is hard to believe that January is over. It seems like New Year’s was just yesterday. I guess time flies when you’re having fun. Are we having fun? I think we are and we will continue too as we journey together for god’s Kingdom.

You may be wondering what does Malachi have to do with having fun or moving forward. Think about what he is saying as I congratulate you. Yes I said congratulate. St. John’s improved on paying your Fair Share Apportionments in 2011. In 2010, we paid 61.91% and in 2011 we improved to 78.49%. That is an increase of 16.78%, so I say thank you. Yet as we look at Malachi’s words we are still “robbing.” So as we look ahead, I encourage you and challenge you to have this as your goal to shoot for that 100% or improve even more than we did.

As we think about what lies ahead for St. John’s in the near future there are many things that may cross through your mind. Are we able to tackle everything, probably not? Yet we still need to put things on the table. So I invite you to share your thoughts with me and each other. You may be thinking that your thoughts and ideas won’t work or are silly or simple. Nonsense, this is why we brainstorm to find out what folks are thinking, to allow ourselves to see things from a different point of view. So share them, I want to hear them. The key is always remembering that it is to the glory of God that we do what we do. Not St. John’s, not any individual, but to God. So I invite you to a Goal Setting time on Monday, February at the church, come an share.

I can not say enough about praying, as Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:17, “pray continually” COB. When we go to God and make God the priority, things will happen. Together we can do great things.

In Christ’s service together,
Pastor Michael

Ministry and Educational Opportunities

Missional and Giving Opportunities:

Spare change Buckets for Apportionments; Pack a Sack, Food Pantry Campership Fund, Katie Wolfe scholarship Fund.

Small group Opportunities

Sunday evening fellowship: 5:30 Dinner; 6:00 Bible Study, Youth Group

Chancel Choir: Wednesday @ 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Bible study; Wednesdays 2 7:15 pm in the Overflow Space

Join us for Sunday School: Classes for all ages

Breakfast @ 9:00 am, Classes @ 9:30

Upcoming Study

Starting Wednesday, February 29 at 7:15 pm, we will begin the Lenten study, “Watching the Disciples: Learning from Their Mistakes.” There will be NO cost for this. Please let Pastor Michael know if your are interested.



Giving: Apportionment Funds:

Category 3: Administration and general Funds

This fund as it states is the portion that helps things function administratively in the Annual Conference. This includes the conference center, insurance, Conference Lay Leader, Spring Heights Maintenance, etc. It also is where our General Church Apportionments are paid, which cover the administrative work of the general church including General Conference which is coming up in April—May.

With these three categories, we as the United Methodist Church together do wonderful ministry across the globe. So let us strive to do our part in making sure they are taken care of.

Visitation:

If you would like a Pastoral visit in your home or elsewhere, please call the office and set up an appointment.

Youth Ministries

A big thank you to the youth for their participation in Youth Sunday on January 22, the next Youth Sunday will be on April 22.



Youth Group meets every Sunday with dinner at 5:30 and meeting at 6:00 PM. All 6th – 12th graders are welcome.

Sunday, February 5, 2012
Super Bowl Party @ the Parsonage
Come about 5 – 5:30 and watch the game.

New England Patriots vs New York Giants
Halftime show by Madonna

Come join in the fund, food, and fellowship
Please bring a snack to share with all.
Drinks provided.

Help Support Our Youth!

February 24—25, 2012

The Youth will be doing the 30 Hour Famine.

A child dies every 8—12 seconds due t hunger related causes, that's 22,000 a day.

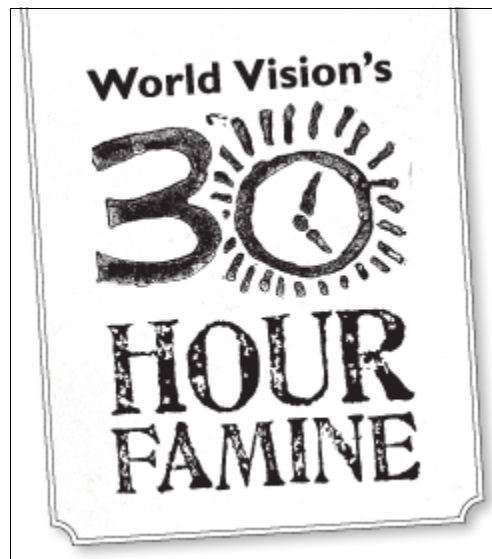
\$ 30 will feed a child for a month

\$ 360 will feed them for a year

Each youth has been challenged to raise \$ 360

If you would like to be a part of this in sponsoring please see any one of the youth.

If anyone would like to join us, let Pastor Michael Know.



St. John's United Methodist Church Administrative Council Meeting Minutes – 16 January



Members present: Pastor Michael Ludle, Terena Jones, Mary Carpenter, John Ford, Sandy Garrett, Dixie Hall, Chuck Ricks, Charlie White, Lisa Woolweaver, and Joe Woolweaver.

Meeting called to order by Terena Jones at 6:30 PM. Terena Jones provided a devotional from “*Our Daily Bread*” and provided an opening prayer.



Reading of Minutes - Minutes from the November Meeting with written reports from committee chairpersons were handed out. November minutes were read and John Ford made a motion to approve the minutes with Charlie White 2nd. Motion approved by all members present.

Financial Report – Mary Carpenter submitted a January 16, 2012 summary financial report which was provided by Mary Ann Rishel. Beginning Balance 1/5/12, \$9905.36; Deposits thru 1/15/12, \$ 3435.35; Balance \$ 13,340.71; Expenditures, \$ 6278.05; Ending balance \$ 7,062.66; Designated Funds, \$ 1066.00; with available funds of \$ 5,99.66. Joe Woolweaver asked why the Designated Funds were only \$1,066.00 as we had ended the year with around \$ 4,406.25 in designated funds. Mary Carpenter explained that due to an issue with our accounting software, the funds were put into savings and will show back up at a later date. Joe also noted that he liked seeing the Year-To-Date (YTD) reports and would like to see them once in a while. He also noted that there appears to be some items on the YTD report in the wrong categories and noted a few examples. Pastor Michael noted that they are currently working on getting the software straight.

Charlie White Moved to accept the financial report with Chuck Ricks 2nd. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

- **Pastor Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) Report** – Chuck Ricks noted that there has been no activity this month. Next PPRC meeting February 27th.
- **Trustee Report** – John Ford provided a written report. Noted that we received the \$ 25,000 grant (Patch 21 will be administrating the money) from the Wellness Coalition and are starting the development of our UMC Community Park at St. John's Heights with Patch 21. First activities are the lower parking lot and French Drain, dates of activities will be announced. Noted that the Next trustee meeting, March 5th.
- **Lay Leadership /Nominations Committee** - Pastor Michael provided a verbal report. Noted that there is a District Training Event this next Saturday for committee members. A flyer has been sent to all committee members and they are encouraged to attend.
- **Worship Committee** – Chuck Ricks noted that there has been no activity this month. Next PPRC meeting February 4th. Pastor Michael noted that ‘as of right now’ the rear projection screen is on permanent loan. May end up being donated to the church by the WV Conference.

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Youth Report – Pastor Michael provided a written report. Christmas Eve Community Dinner was a big success, about 250 people fed. Thanks to all who helped. 3 youth went to the Winter Jam Concert on January 6 in Charleston, had a good time. One youth went to the district Youth Rally on January 13 in Parkersburg. Approximately 80-85 district youth participated.

Upcoming Events:

Super Bowl Party @ the parsonage February 5th

30 Hour Famine February 24-25th.

Mission Conference Event, March 18th.

- **Mission Report** – Terena provided a verbal report. Noted that our next mission trip will be to Alabama in April. Would like to have a cook for the trip. Pastor Michael also noted that Little Mike will be going to Georgia in March to work with Habit for Humanity.
- **Women's Report** – Dixie provided a verbal report. Planning a Kitchen Shower on March 4th to upgrade the utensils in our kitchen, a light lunch will be provided along with a list of needed items. Noted that the women are going to support the Men's Potato Bake with a Salad Bar on February 12th. Next parlor activity, February 19 to install molding and in the future buy furniture as funds become available.
- **Children's Ministries** – Lisa Woolweaver provided a written report. Noted that our kids participated in the Christmas Cantata as townspeople and shepherds. Casey Jones played Joseph while Caroline Frum was Mary and they sung a beautiful solo. William Ward also sang a great solo as the Angel Gabriel. Other participants were Noah and Ian Lance, Trevor Ward and the Ward's friend Dylan. Anna Tupper was our angel narrator. Noted that the next Sunday Funday will be February 5th with homemade pizza and a movie with an ice skating party in March. Lisa also noted that the Gabriel Project has taken on a few clients. Currently these women are in need of maternity clothing. Lisa will get sizes and help will be appreciated.
- **Men's Report** – Joe Woolweaver provided written report. Noted that we had **15,913** unique visits on our church website for 2011. Noted several Church service activities completed along with support for the live nativity scene that was held December 16 and 17th. Upcoming events, roadside clean-up with Patch 21, Jan 18th from 3:30 – 4:30 PM. Little Kanawha District Men's meeting, Jan 21. Little Kanawha District Methodist Men's Potato Drop, January 28th. We currently have orders for 8550 pounds of potatoes. February 12th, Potato and Salad Bar after church to raise monies for the potato drop.

St. John's United Methodist Church Administrative Council Meeting Minutes – 16 January 2012

Old Business:

It was decided that the Administrative Council will hold meetings every other months instead of monthly. Mary also asked that we set up a separate Hardman's account for work being done at the property to make book keeping easier. Joe took the action to set up.

New Business:

Chuck Ricks suggested that we look into some fire alarms for the church. Along with this it was noted that our fire ext. are out of inspection date. Chuck Ricks moved, Charlie White 2nd, to have the action given to the trustees to look into. Action passed.

We also discussed the need to set some Goals and put plans into place to improve our church for 2012. Lots of great discussion provided a lot of ideas and it was decided to hold a Goal Setting Meeting on February 20, 2012 at 6:30 PM. All will be invited to bring ideas in for how to improve our church and grow our active membership.

Pastor's Time – Pastor Michael provided verbal report. Noted that the Ministerial Associated is meeting Wednesday with the Salvation Army and other charitable organization to develop some guidelines to coordinate efforts and services as the Family Resource network (FRN) Booklet is out of date.

Next Meeting Time: March 19, 2012 – 6:30 PM. **Note - Committee Reports – Please**, do not forget to provide written reports early to ensure time to make **copies or bring enough copies** for all.

Pastor Michael closed with prayer and meeting adjourned at 7:35

Note: there may be minor corrections pending Administrative Council member review and approval of these minutes at their next meeting.

THE UNITED METODIST WOMEN ARE THROWING A SHOWER FOR THE KITCHEN ON MARCH 4, AFTER CHURCH. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED. EVERYONE WELCOME , WILL BE REGISTERED AT WALMART .

DIXIE HALL
UMW PRESIDENT

February Events

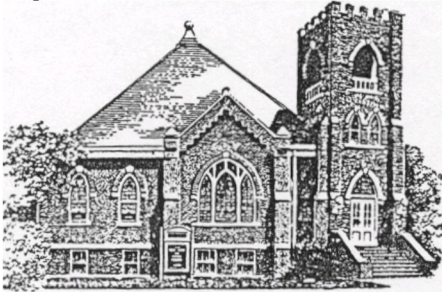
Feb 5 12:00—2:00 PM
Feb 5 5:00 PM
Feb 7 6:30 PM
Feb 13 6:00 PM
Feb 20 6:30 PM
Feb 22 7:00 PM
Feb 24-25
Feb 27 6:30 PM

Sunday Funday, Pizza and Movie
Super bowl Party
Worship Comm. Meeting
UMM/UMW Meeting
Goal Setting Meeting
Ash Wednesday Service
30 Hour Famine
PPR Meeting

Sunday Evening Bible Hour 5:30 PM
Choir Practice 6:00 PM
AA Meeting 7:00 PM
Bible Study 7:15 PM
Cub Scouts #437 5:30 PM
Boy Scout Troop #437
Youth Meetings each Sunday Evening 5:30PM—7:00 PM

Wed. Evening
Wed. Evening
Wed. & Sat. Evening
Wednesday Evening
Thursday Evening
Thursday Evening

St. John's United Methodist Church



335 Church St.

Spencer, WV 25276

