



NBUMC NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2009



New Baden United Methodist Church 107 W. Hanover St. New Baden, IL 62265 (618) 588-3588
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The View From Here

by Pastor Pam

As we move into February of a brand new year, Christmas seems a long ways past. However, a special event that we hosted the Sunday before Christmas is worth remembering. In the past, some folks here thought about having a birthday party for Jesus, but for whatever reason, it didn't happen. This past Christmas, it did.

We thought it would be fun to host a two-hour VBS-like event before Christmas to help make sure our children understood who Christmas is really for. In addition to our own kids, we sent out invitations to all the children in the community who had participated in our summer VBS program. No one in the community signed up and at least some of us were just a little bit nervous. Would anyone show? In the end, 12 children came to our birthday party. And most surprisingly, two of them came from the community as a response to our invitation.

In our story time, we began with the tale of a bitter and grieving wood carver who was commissioned by a widow to carve the figures of a nativity scene. We added some games, we sang some Christmas songs and we made our own nativity scenes to hang on our trees at home. And then we finished it off with a birthday cake and some ice cream.

There were several people who helped make this happen: Brenda and Steve Lehr, Joan Witte, Kerri Thaler, and Terry Mason.

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Someone suggested that next summer, we let parents know during VBS of our plans for another birthday party the following December. It's nice to know that folks are already thinking of next time.

Thanks to all those who helped pull this event off. And for those of you who were wondering what ever happened with that birthday party for Jesus that we were talking about, now you know.



Greeters

<i>February 1</i>	<i>Carol Bequette & Ruth Chaput</i>
<i>February 8</i>	<i>Paul & Doris Pratt</i>
<i>February 15</i>	<i>Larry & Pam Buck</i>
<i>February 22</i>	<i>Allen & Donna Williams</i>
<i>March 1</i>	<i>John & Carol Ruth</i>

Liturgists

<i>February 1</i>	<i>Joe Jackson</i>
<i>February 8 & 15</i>	<i>Terry Mason</i>
<i>February 22 & March 1</i>	<i>Jerry Bequette</i>

Thank You to all those who helped put up and take down our Christmas decorations for our Church!

Thank You to everyone who provided and purchased our cookies/candy sold in December during our Pancake Breakfast. We grossed \$382.50. 10% (\$38.25) was given to our Special Needs Fund.

As chairperson of the Administrative Council, I would like to ask each chairperson of the committees to give me their information for the monthly meeting agenda. The information will need to be submitted to me by the 2nd Sunday....prior to the Administrative Council meeting, which is held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Both the agenda and rules of conduct will be followed.

Thank you,
Carol Bequette

Rules of Conduct for Administrative Council Meetings

1. Only one person will speak at a time. There will be no interrupting or disrespectfulness allowed.
2. Anyone wanting to speak will raise his or her hand and wait to be recognized by the chairperson.
3. Persons not on the council will have an opportunity to comment on business being discussed. However, comments will be balanced. If someone speaks against an item of business, then opportunity to speak will be given to those with an opposing view. A person may not offer opinions both for and against the same issue.
4. Persons speaking must use "I" statements rather than "you" statements in order to avoid casting blame or putting others down.
5. The council chair has the authority to set the agenda and decide how to run the meeting. If someone would like to discuss an item at the next meeting, they should contact the chair in advance to have it added to the agenda.

The UMW are saving "Labels for Education" to benefit Cunningham Children's Home in Urbana, IL. Would you please save the Campbell's product UPC labels, including the logo? These labels will be used for educational supplies.

Everyone will have to "spring" into action for our annual Spring Rummage /Bake Sale set for Friday, April 3rd and Saturday, April 4th. Set up for the sale will start on March 2nd.

Calendar & Events

February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

- February 1 8:00 am Praise Team
 7:00 pm Youth Group
- February 3 7:00 pm Trustees
- February 4 7:00 pm Finance
- February 5 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- February 8 8:00 am Praise Team
 7:00 pm Youth Group
- February 10 7:00 pm Administrative Council
- February 12 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- February 13 Evening Girl Scouts
- February 14 Valentine's Day Dinner
- February 15 8:00 am Praise Team
 7:00 pm Youth Group
- February 17 7:00 pm UMW
- February 19 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- February 21 6:30 am Pancake Breakfast
- February 22 7:00 am UMM...Good Ol'Days
 8:00 am Praise Team
 7:00 pm Youth Group
- February 24 7:00 pm Worship Committee
- February 25 Ash Wednesday Service
- February 27 Evening Girl Scouts

February Birthdays

- 2nd *Lucille Bann*
- 2nd *Kenneth Franklin*
- 2nd *Jason Rulo*
- 3rd *Joshua Buck*
- 3rd *Justin Buck*
- 4th *Joshua Jackson*
- 4th *Nicole Maedeker*
- 4th *Sage Thole*
- 7th *Angela Witte*
- 14th *Dennis Strake*
- 18th *Nathaniel Honious*
- 23rd *Donna Williams*
- 27th *Anita Peters*
- 28th *Laurel Peterson*

February Anniversaries

- 14th *Ellen & Kenneth Franklin*
- 23rd *Elizabeth & Michael Banuelos*
- 24th *Pam & Larry Buck*





God's Valentine St. Valentine

"Be My Valentine." This is a phrase that conjures up a lot of different images associated with the celebration of Valentine's Day. Cards with hearts and little poems on them. Candy and flowers given to someone you love. And images of cupids flying around shooting their arrows of love into unsuspecting youths. Young and old alike expressing their affection for their sweethearts. February 14th for many means cards, candy, flowers, and cupids.

Our Mothers and Fathers in the Christian Faith would be surprised at what has become of Valentine's Day. What we call Valentine's Day was at one time the Feast of St. Valentine. It was a religious holiday. They would be especially shocked at the use of cupid since he was a character from pagan mythology. For Christians in the past this holiday was a day to remember and celebrate the life and death of a Christian martyr.

According to church tradition St. Valentine was a priest near Rome in about the year 270 A.D. At that time the Roman Emperor was imprisoning Christians for not worshipping the Roman gods. During this persecution Valentine was arrested. Some say he was arrested because he was performing Christian marriages, but others say it was for helping Christians escape prison.

During the trial they asked Valentine what he thought of the Roman gods Jupiter and Mercury. Of course Valentine said they were false gods and that the God that Jesus called Father was the only true God. So the Romans threw him in prison for insulting the gods.

While in prison Valentine continued to minister. He witnessed to the guards. One of the guards was a good man who had adopted a blind girl. He asked Valentine if his God could help his daughter. Valentine prayed and the girl was given her sight. The guard and his whole family, 46 people, believed in Jesus and were baptized. Because these people had come to know Jesus, Valentine praised God right there in his prison cell. When the emperor heard about this he was furious that Valentine was still making converts even in prison, so he had Valentine beheaded.

Valentine knew that he might get caught in his Christian activities. He knew that if he told the court the truth about the Roman gods that he would be thrown in prison. And he knew that if he continued to witness to Christ in the prison he would make his captors angry. But he continued, because he loved the Lord and his fellow humans. He was willing to risk his life to free the prisoners and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who needed to hear it.

The Bible Says: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13) God showed us this love by coming in Christ to die for our sins. And St. Valentine demonstrated this love when he died for his friends. This is the kind of love that Valentine's Day is really about.

10 Little Christians

Submitted by Rev. L.C. Pruehsner

10 little Christians standing in line
1 disliked the preacher, then there were 9.

9 little Christians stayed up very late
1 overslept Sunday, then there were 8.

8 little Christians on their way to Heaven
1 took the low road and then there were 7.

7 little Christians chirping like chicks
1 disliked the music, then there were 6.

6 little Christians seemed very much alive
1 lost his interest, then there were 5.

5 little Christians pulling for Heaven's Shore
1 stopped to rest, then there were 4.

4 little Christians each busy as a bee
1 got his feelings hurt, then there were 3.

3 little Christians knew not what to do
1 joined the sporty crowd, then there were 2.

2 little Christians, our rhyme is nearly done
differed with each other, then there was 1.

1 little Christian, can't do much 'tis true
brought his friend to Bible study, then there were 2.

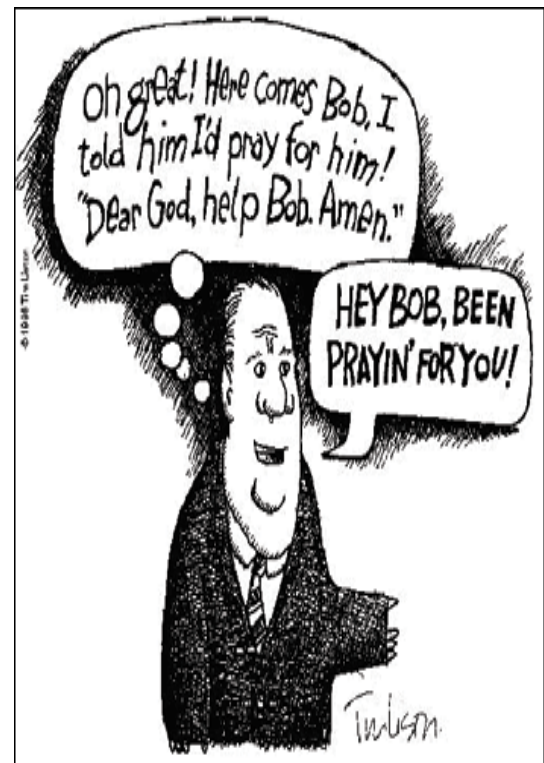
2 earnest Christians, each won one more
that doubled the number, then there were 4.

4 sincere Christians worked early and late
each won another, then there were 8.

8 desirous Christians, if they doubled as before
In just so many Sundays, we'd have 1,024!

In this little jingle, there is a lesson true,
You belong to either the building or the
wrecking crew!

Think about it...where do you belong?



New Baden United Methodist Church

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Music Director: Joan Witte

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We're on the Web!

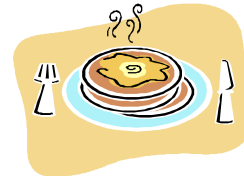
Visit us at:

newbadenumc.org



Pancake Breakfast!!!
Saturday, February 21st
6:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

See you there!!!



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