

The logo features the text "NBUMC" in large, bold, red serif capital letters, with the word "newsletter" in a smaller, white, lowercase serif font below it. The text is centered over a dark teal background that has a thick, black, hand-drawn circular line around it. The entire graphic is framed by a thick red border.

# NBUMC newsletter

New Baden United Methodist Church

July 2011

## *Food For Thought*

*God is Our Hope: taken from [www.christianinspirational.org](http://www.christianinspirational.org)*

What is *hope*? Some people characterize it as never giving up. Others see it as a motivation to endure hard times knowing that something better is ahead. It can be both of these things and more when the source of your hope is God.

Hope and faith are inextricably linked. In the book of Hebrews, Paul says that when we hope for what we cannot see, that is faith. In the book of Jeremiah, God told the Israelites that His plan was not to harm them but to see that they had a future and that it was filled with hope.

To get a better view of what it means to hope when the going gets rough, let's look at Job. Remember him? He was the upright and just man living in the land of Uz. One day, Satan asked God for Job. Satan believed that someone so just was only that because he had never known a hard day in his life. If he did, he would not be so ready to live such a godly life.

Therefore, God allowed Satan to tempt Job. Some may call this cruel or say that it exhibits how [God](#) really sees us – pawns in a game. Neither of these things is true.

Let's face it. Life is hard. And, many of the hardships are not due to God's hand. People have free will and often their expression of their "rights" may infringe on yours. But, God is nothing if not faithful to those

to those who love Him. He will rescue us from all our troubles, if not help us to avoid some of them.

Now back to Job. He knew God but when he lost his entire family in a freak accident, he was deeply saddened. He also lost all that he owned. You see, Job was wealthy. That is another sticking point that diminishes us. We may lose some things but as long as we have our money, we still feel a measure of security, however false.

Job tore his clothing (as was the custom) and rubbed ashes all over him. When his health was threatened, his friends saw a chance to jump in and give Job the benefit if their advice to stop all the nonsense.

It is not uncommon to feel sad when things go wrong or when it seems that the weight of the world is crushing in on us. Becoming emotional has nothing to do with faith or hope. It is a response to what has happened. We may even wallow in self-pity (though hopefully not in the dirt and ash) as Job also did.

Job's friends, as no doubt our friends would do, gave him advice. They went from trying to comfort him to blaming and condemning him as an unrepentant sinner. For a time, he agreed with his friends and wondered if [God](#) had left him.

But, Job reached a point where instead of looking at the present circumstances, he began to remember the past and God's faithfulness. Those memories began

to give him strength and an unnatural hope that all would be well eventually because of what he already know about his God.

In all situations God is our hope. We come to realize that when we turn the corner in our sadness and pity and remember who God *really* is. He is the Supreme [Creator](#), the Lily of the Valley, the Bright and Morning Star and the Almighty God. That will never change no matter what comes our way. We can count on God to come to our rescue when the time is right.

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## Vacation Bible School

The NBUMC will be hosting VBS July 18<sup>th</sup> to July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 a.m. to noon for children ages 4 years through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The theme this year is PandaMania.

What happens when a pack of fun-loving panda bears invades your community? PandaMania VBS, a wild celebration of God's unconditional love! At PandaMania, kids will discover that God has a purpose and a plan for everyone and that he crafted each of us with his own loving hands. This VBS uses the kid friendly, New Living Translation (NLT).

If you are interested in volunteering or registering your child, please don't hesitate to stop by the church or speak to Brenda Lehr. You can also obtain a VBS registration form from the church website under VBS on the right hand side of the page. The church's website is as follows: [www.newbadenumc.org](http://www.newbadenumc.org)



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## Additional Scriptures:

*Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you.*

- Psalm 25:5

*But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence.*

- Jeremiah 17:7

## Greeters

July 3<sup>rd</sup> Carol Bequette & Ruth Chaput

July 10<sup>th</sup> Larry & Pam Buck

July 17<sup>th</sup> Allen & Donna Williams

July 24<sup>th</sup> George & Terry Mason

July 31<sup>st</sup> John & Carol Ruth

August 7 Pat Lewis & Michael Witte

## Liturgists

July 3 Joe Jackson

July 10 & 17 Allen Williams

July 24 & 31 Terry Mason

August 7 & 14 George Mason



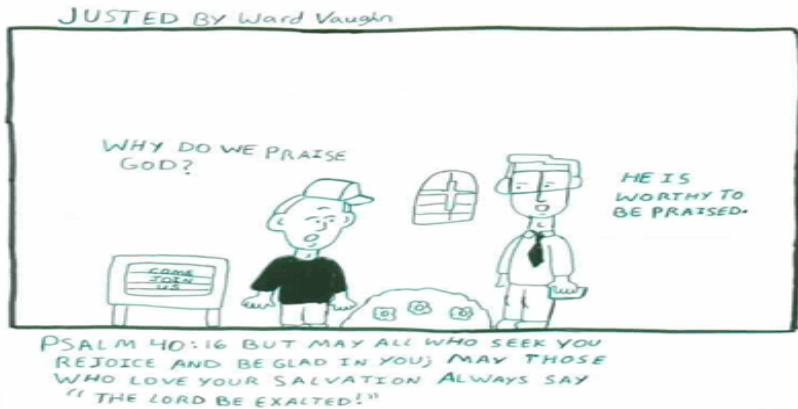
The fall date for the rummage and bake sale has been set for Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Rummage must be dropped off to the church prior to September 25<sup>th</sup>. Time to start cleaning things out!



# CARTOON CORNER

Proverbs 22:17  
"A merry heart does good like medicine"

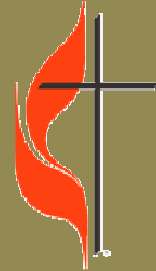


**July Birthdays & Anniversaries**

- 12<sup>th</sup> Mya Thaler
- 13<sup>th</sup> Michael & Joan Witte
- 15<sup>th</sup> Dale Fischer
- 21<sup>st</sup> William & Patricia Malina
- 27<sup>th</sup> Paul & Doris Pratt

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Psalm 118:24:  
"This is the day which the Lord hath made;  
We will rejoice and be glad in it."



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[www.newbadenumc.org](http://www.newbadenumc.org)