

## February 2010 In This Issue

[Step Up for Safe Sanctuary](#)

[Prayer Concerns](#)

[Trivia Night this Friday!](#)

[Hamilton Happenings](#)

[Room in the Inn](#)

[David's Message](#)

[This Month in Mustard Seeds](#)

[UMW](#)

[Youth News](#)

[Second Harvest](#)

[Pray for Haiti](#)

[Tuesday Morning Bible Study](#)

Thirty people from our congregation gathered here on a recent Saturday and trained to be a "Safe Sanctuary" Church. We now have a policy that will help us in our ministry to our children and youth here at Hamilton United Methodist Church. This is cause for celebration.

We rejoice that we can that we take seriously the verses that Jesus calls the children to come unto him. As a congregation, we know that our priority is to share our witness that Jesus Christ as Lord, but we want to also ensure that our community sees Hamilton as a safe place to come so that they learn and grow spiritually.

Safe Sanctuary will be a continual process that instructs all of us as we minister to children and youth. We devoted much time to this issue, and will continue to do so: We want you to know that your children are our top priority. If you see or witness something that we may need to revisit, please let me know.

Let us celebrate these young people who God has given to us to teach, to witness to, and to keep safe. We are so fortunate to have the children here, and so grateful for those who have listened to the voice of God as He has called you to come and teach. That is a true call to ministry. Thank you, teachers, for your time, energy, and, even more importantly, your witness to children who are searching to find Christ. Many times they see Christ in You!

Thanks for your hard work,

Blessings,

*Jim*

### **It's not too late to be part of Room in the Inn!**

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Gregg Peterson at [gregg1976@comcast.net](mailto:gregg1976@comcast.net) or sign up on the RITI board in the narthex. Aren't you glad you had a roof over your head in January? Here's a chance to give back. .

### **From David Johnson, Pastoral Associate**

Hello Everyone! I was given a story the other day from one of our church members. As I read through the story, I was thinking it might be appropriate to share it with you all. As we begin to put Christmas and Epiphany behind us, let us remember "The Star Story."

## Step up for Safe Sanctuary!

We need committed, engaged adults to help us as we transition into a Safe Sanctuary church. Volunteers are needed especially during the Sunday School hour and for youth activities. Interested? Contact David Johnson at 361-7210. Safe Sanctuary guidelines can be found throughout the church, often hanging next to each room's lightswitch.

## Prayer Concerns

### Please pray for:

Please continue to be in prayer for Haiti  
Carl Chamness' nephew,  
Lyle Chamness  
Corinna Davidson's sister, Sue  
Doris Estes' friend,  
Terry Jurkovich  
Phyllis Herbert's sister, Pam  
Herbert  
Brittany Mascarenas  
Kathy LaGrow's parents  
Pat McMahon  
Penny McMahon's friend,  
Amanda Burtrum  
Debbie Scott's friends, Steve  
Hutchcraft & Ansley McLaurin  
Patty Svarda's niece, Nora

### Continue to pray for:

All Homebound Members,  
Lucille Brewington  
Jack & Ernestine Conn  
Loraine Davis  
Lee Drayton  
Catherine Harralson  
Morgan & Ruth King  
Jimmy Nalls  
Jean Nichols

## The Star Story

Taken from the Kairos Weekend Manual, page 264

"There is a story...just a story...usually told around Christmas time which is special for those of us who seek the Lord.

"We can all remember the story of how a new star led the three wise men from the east to the manger in Bethlehem... how the wise men had followed that star until it stopped in its travel right above the place where the baby Jesus was born.

" A few days after the wise men had found Jesus, there was a meeting of all the angels who had been involved in placing the star in the sky, that guiding light which had been named THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM. The angels gathered to discuss what should be done with the star...after all, it had fulfilled its purpose. It had led the wise men to the manger, to the Christ. It was no longer needed.

" What to do with it? It could not just be left there. But what to do with it? That was the big question.

There was endless discussion among the angels, with first this proposal reaping enthusiastic support and then that proposal exciting even more approval. The discussion went on and on, but finally it was decided unanimously that THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM would be broken into billions of little pieces and one tiny piece would be put in the eye of each baby at birth.

"Our task, yours and mine, is to look for that piece of the star in every person's eye. It is there if only we look for it. Just as the Bethlehem star led the wise men of old to Christ in the stable below, so will the speck in the eye lead the wise men and wise women of today to the Christ just twelve inches below...in the hearts of everyone we meet."

Amen,

Amen,

David

## This Month with the Mustard Seeds

Our unit this month is "God helped Jesus Grow and Learn." We traveled to Egypt to see how God protected Jesus from King Herod. For passover, we traveled from Nazareth to Jerusalem with Jesus to visit the temple. We learned ways we can grow in Jesus. Our last two lessons will be how "Jesus pleases God" and how we can "Follow Jesus and be fishers of men."

Bun & Quentin Sowder

All deployed military and their families

Tyler Bradford & family  
Terry Gilbert & family  
Marsha Chambers' &  
Sharon Tolbert's nephew, Tim Sapp

All children with "Special Needs"

Andrea Adams stepsister,  
Jodie Carlsen  
Jody Allison  
The Ando Family  
Stacey Ashby's grandmother & step-father, Maude Gamblin & Art Kinchen  
Vern Benke, Jr.  
Jean Caldwell  
Jean Caldwell's sister, Kay Arnold  
Buddy Cates  
Mark Chambers' parents & nephew, Everett & Dorothy Chambers,  
Rhett Chambers  
Marsha Chambers/Sharon Tolbert's mother, Faye Sapp  
Carl Chamness' friend, Lee Apple  
Lou Clark's mother & aunt, Mona Ross & Clara Matthews  
Michaela Clark's friends, Katy Hollis & Cassidy Plyburn  
Corinna Davidson's mother,

Ailene McGhee  
Jerry Davidson  
Mary Etta Duffey  
Doris Estes & her father, Bill Roberts  
Vince/Doris Estes' friends,  
Loretta Lang, Dan Wolfe,  
Luther Thronberry  
Linda Gnegy's father, Sam Zautner  
Keith Guigneaux's mother  
Mike Hassell's friend, Stan Lyell  
The Herbert's friend, Donovan Walden  
Doug/Missy Hunter's friends,  
Derrell and Carol Richardson  
Bill & Betty James' son, Bill  
Carolyn Knight's mother,  
Eugenia Warrick  
Kathy LaGrow's son, Matthew Minnehan  
Diana McCarty's sister, Ellen Hatcher  
Penny McMahon's sister,  
Patrice Dyer  
Scott Montgomery  
Scott Montgomery's father, Bob  
Ellen Myrick's father, George Everett  
Elise Nollenberger  
Gregg Peterson's friend, Amy Blanton  
Lynn Peterson's father, Bob Graham  
Lynn Peterson's brother,

## UMW Collecting Baby Blankets

The UMW Friendship day circle will meet Feb. 9 at 10:30 in room 101. Our focus will be to collect prayer shawls and baby blankets to send to the UMW national Assembly meeting. The shawls & blankets can be sewn with fabric, knitted or crocheted. The prayer shawls can be the following sizes: 65" X 32", 69" X 19" or 70" X 14". The baby blankets are 30", 32", 36" or 38" square. Bring your items and we will dedicate them during our meeting.

Please join us for a pot luck lunch afterward. If you have any questions call Kathy LaGrow 366-4378 or Kay Hampton 275-8612.

## Youth Happenings this month

### Chili Cook-Off this Sunday!

Next Sunday, February 7th, please don't forget to make plans to attend the third annual, youth sponsored, Hamilton Chili cook off. Bring your best pot of Chili to enter in our contest and join in the fellowship. It will be \$5.00 to sample all of the chili you want and cast a vote for your favorite. You can purchase extra votes for \$1.00 and prizes will be given to the three best. There is also a special recognition for the hottest chili too. We hope to see you right after the 10:30 service next Sunday!

### Winter-Jam!

Winter Jam is Christian Music's largest annual tour! The youth always try to attend. This year, February 21st, is the day for WinterJam. That is a Sunday evening, so we will attend this instead of having our normal Gathering. We'll meet at the church at 4PM, and will return no later than 11PM (I know it's late...concert is expected to end at 10:30).

### Second Harvest Volunteers Schedule

Second Harvest can use your help on Saturdays from 9-12 and Mondays and Wednesdays from 4-6. If you can help out please call Kathy LaGrow 366-4378. We can use volunteers on Mondays & Saturdays when we are open also. Thanks for the help with grocery bags! AND all the support you give this needed ministry for our community. **We also need help with restocking on Mondays between 10 and 2 and on Tuesdays between 9:30 and noon.**

### February Volunteers:

*Wednesday, February 3:* Karolyn Conly, Polly Minyard, June Hawkins  
*Saturday, February 6:* Ginny McKinney, Liz Gilliam, Linda Denton and Carolyn Roark

*Monday, February 8:* Rosalee Price, Kim & Landon

*Wednesday, February 10:* Brian Abston, , Tiffany Wondrow, Elaine Crotinger

*Saturday, February 12:* Stacey Ashby, Allison, Candace, Valeen Mertens,

*Monday, February 15* Carl & Ali, Jean Gordon, the Nicoles

*Wednesday, February 17:* Janet T., Dale and Judy

*Saturday, February 20:* Ellen, Jackson, and Claire Myrick, Melissa Russell and Joyce

*Monday, February 22:* Denny Klimo, Mark Jurkovich, Shirley Pollack

Bobby Graham  
Kristen Rector's mother,  
Linda Moore  
Michelle Rocha's friend,  
Kelley Stotler  
Leslie Ryan's aunt, Margaret  
Campbell  
Bob Schamberg's mother,  
LaVerne  
Michael Schamberg  
Lori Schiller's parents,  
Mr./Mrs. Miller  
Kitty/Gary Schleimer's  
mother, Lucille  
Debbie Scott's father, Laverne  
Nelson  
Melissa Scott's friend, Jessica  
Happle  
Patty Svarda  
Eric Vance's father, Edward  
Rob Watson's parents, Martha  
& Bob  
Lynn & Judy Westerman  
Reverend Phillip Wright

## Trivia Night this Friday!

Come to Hamilton's  
first ever, "TRIVIA  
NIGHT"! Friday,  
February 5th, 6:30  
p.m. Bring your  
thinking cap and a  
snack!

**Hamilton  
Happenings  
are updated  
almost daily at  
[our church  
website.](#)**

**Need to schedule a  
meeting at  
church? Call the  
Church Office at  
361-7210 for  
availability.**

**RAZZ's special  
offers!!!  
All day Sunday - 10%  
off with a church  
bulletin  
All day Monday - 10%  
off for Seniors  
Thursday from 5 until  
7 - some items for  
\$5.00**

*Wednesday, February 24:* Mindy and Jacob Hamilton, Carol  
Papuchis

*Saturday, February 27:* Gwen Howard, Jennifer Williams, Carolyn  
Roark and Valeen Mertens

**Can you help? Call Kathy LaGrow 366-4378**

## Hope for Haiti

In times of great disaster, it can be quite difficult to watch from the  
sidelines. We have spoken with many people asking how they can  
help. During these initial hours and days, there are two ways in which  
you can help the people of Haiti.

First, pray for Haiti and for those involved in the rescue efforts. It is  
our prayer that God's hand is on those searching for survivors, and  
that God's peace is with those who  
have lost loved ones.

Second, give generously to UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee  
on Relief. UMCOR is always among the first on the ground in these  
situations, and the last to leave. Make your check payable to  
Hamilton UMC and in the "memo" line write UMCOR - Advance  
#418325.

## Tuesday Morning Bible Study

A new bible study will begin on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-10:30.  
This study will be led by Jim Hamilton. The first meeting will be on  
Tuesday, February 2. We hope those who are available will plan to  
join us each week.

Questions? Comments? Feedback? Let us know! Meanwhile, keep  
sending those newsletter items by the 20th of the month to  
[communications@hamilton-umc.org](mailto:communications@hamilton-umc.org)

Sincerely,

*Ellen Myrick* (e-newsletter)

*Tracey Hawk* (print newsletter)

Hamilton United Methodist Church