



Henderson United Methodist Church

2004 Camphausen Avenue
 Erie, Pa. 16510
 Phone 814-453-6041
 Pastor Harry Raymond Speakman, Jr. Cell 814-450-3150
 Email: HRSpeakman@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

Henderson Happenings

Reflections from Ray: March 2015

The month of March finds us into the season of Lent. In the church year, Lent is the season of preparation for Easter. This is a period of time devoted to preparation for celebration. It is a time for us personally to reflect on our spiritual lives, to think about progress we have made in the journey and the direction we are headed. Self-examination is a key emphasis during Lent. The traditional decision to give something up during Lent is not enough. We want to add something on, not just take something away. We want to add on deeds of mercy and kindness. The real purpose of Lent is to help us grow spiritually and to deepen our Christian service.

Recall that the name Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning Spring. It refers to the gradual lengthening of days after the long winter, and I know that for many of you it has felt long already ! Adopting a forty day period of Lent traces back to being mentioned as early as the Council of Nicea in the year 325 AD and was traditionally observed with times of fasting, abstaining from rich foods, and decreasing the amount of social activities. Scholars think Lent has grown out of the pre-Easter fast that took place during the required period of preparing for baptism and confirmation that took place on Easter Sunday.

The reason that forty days was selected for the time of Lent was the holiness and symbolism associated with forty. Forty is a number found throughout the Scriptures that represents significant events in both the Old and New Testaments. For instance, the forty years of wandering in the wilderness (Numbers 14:33), Elijah’s fast on his journey to Mount Horeb (First Kings

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19:8), the forty days of grace given to Ninevah in the story of Jonah (Jonah 3:4), Jesus' time of fasting when He began His ministry (Matthew 4:2) Sundays are not included in counting the forty days.

My prayer is that these Lenten days would truly be a time of reflection and spiritual growth for us. My preaching themes this Lenten Season focus on "The I Am Sayings of Jesus." The Schedule will be:

March 1 ~ I Am the Bread of Life

March 8 ~ I Am the Gate

March 15 ~ I Am the Vine

March 22 ~ I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life

March 29 ~ He Is King of Kings

April 5 ~ I Am the Resurrection and the Life

Blessings,

Pastor Ray



Third Annual Shoe Drive

EUMA and All God's Children Ministries/Ramps of Hope are holding our Third Annual **Shoe Drive** to raise funds for our missions. The Shoe Drive will run through July 1.

- Grace United Methodist Church, 420 California Dr., Coal Center, PA (drop off Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; 724-330-5350
- Saegertown United Methodist Church, 620 Euclid Avenue, Saegertown, PA

How it works:

- Gather old, unwanted pairs of shoes (in any condition)
- Rubber band pairs together, packaged 25 pairs per bag
- Bring them to Annual Conference in Grove City (June 11 to 14) or any drop off location:
 - The Rainbow Connection Thrift Store, 1516 Buffalo Road, Erie
 - Girard Area Industrial Authority, 227 Hathaway St. East, Girard
 - Greg Thomas Floor Expressions, 945 W. 12th St., Erie

Through this shoe drive, we raise much needed funds for outreach ministries, shoes are kept out of landfills, and micro-enterprise ventures are supported in developing countries. Last year, our supporters helped to raise \$17,418.40 for our two mission!

For questions or packaging supplies, contact:

Debbie Hills at deacon.dhills@gmail.com

John Fees at JohnF@euma-erie.org

For more information, contact the EUMA office at info@euma-erie.org or call us at (814) 456-8073

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- Mar 3 – Leigh Grinnen
- Mar 4—Brit Holmberg
- Mar 6 – Elly Drew
- Mar 6 – Bryah Jordan
- Mar 7 – Kumain Page
- Mar 8 – Noah Owens
- Mar 12 Tabatha Miller
- Mar 15-Dorothy Gilkey
- Mar17- Shalin Snider
- Mar 18-Kate Drew
- Mar 18-Samantha Shields
- Mar 21-Kalae Harden
- Mar 23-Josh Granger
- Mar 27-Shaherah Tate
- Mar 29-Ana Jimenez



Happy Birthday

Birthdays are filled with yesterday's memories, today's joys, and tomorrow's dreams.

Things to Remember:

Pastor Ray's regular day off is *Friday*

- *Sunday worship 9:30 am*

Your Prayers Are Requested For:

- Pastor Jane Myers
- Kate Drew
- Louise Smail
- Kathy Fuller
- Sandi Williams
- Ronnie Drew
- Glen Dine
- Ruby Hull
- Wanda Brunner**
- Our City and our nation



Psalm 41:3
The LORD sustains them on their sickbed and restores them from their bed of illness. NIV

March Helpers

- Announcer Wanda
- Scripture Kathy
- Greeter Ruby
- Counters Wanda/Ruby
- Ushers Walter/ Youth

April Helpers

- Announcer Mary
- Scripture Carl
- Greeter Betty
- Counters Mary/Brandy
- Ushers Walter/Youth



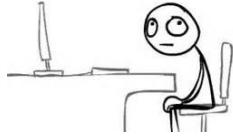
Thank you to all our volunteers

Visit our Church Website at:

www.Hendersonunitedmethodistchurch.com

Random Thoughts

It seems like there is always some one or some organization seeking donations for one "Good Cause" or another.



We may be torn at times as to what we should do and to what cause we should respond. Let your conscience and your faith be your guide. When I mention faith I don't mean whether you are a Baptist, Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist or any other religious affiliation you may have; what I am speaking to is your "BIG" (Belief in God). Let Him lead you in your decision. I am sure that if I listen to what He has to say to me I will do the righteous thing.

There are Special Sunday offerings in our church and there are other missions that seek our donations; one such mission is "Imagine No Malaria". I kind of like to imagine no diseases at all and like to think whatever I give large or small will make a difference. I took the liberty of reprinting some of an article I read on United Methodist News below.

Imagine No Malaria Gets Superhero Award

Imagine No Malaria, an initiative of The United Methodist Church to prevent and treat malaria, has received a Superhero Award from the Rotarians Action Group on Malaria. The award was given during the recent annual meeting of the Alliance for Malaria Prevention in Geneva. Drake Zimmerman, vice chair of the Rotarians Action Group on Malaria, made the presentation.

"Solve malaria and you solve so many other problems," Zimmerman said. "Better stated, healthy people can solve their own problems! Malaria control makes prosperity possible now. The subcontinent is booming where it languished for so long, thanks in part to your generous gifts and tireless efforts. We say 'thank you' for the outstanding and ongoing work and sustained dedication."

The next time you are asked to give, think **BIG**.

Just a thought. ~ cw

Baby it's Cold Outside



But things are heating up around Henderson. The ministry building is buzzing with activity. The Food Pantry committee seems to be on the go all the time. They meet regularly to try to nail down the most efficient ways to serve those who may need some help feeding themselves and/or their families. Nothing remains the same forever. That's life! We just have to roll with it.

I've heard it said that "patience is a virtue". Food Pantry clients and volunteers alike must strive to be patient when things don't go as smoothly as desired. Striking out with words that hurt or other hurtful ways of expression are not going to make things go faster or smoother. It will probably slow things down or bring them to a screeching halt. Know of a better way to do something, politely offer your suggestion to the folks in charge and let them ponder it. Got time to volunteer, offer that also.



Hi-De-Ho Campers!! It's that time of year again. Applications for Wesley Woods camp are due now. They must be received before April to secure your place in the camp of your choice. A \$50.00 registration fee is needed when the application is turned in. If you did not receive a camp booklet in the mail please stop by the church office to check out which camps are available this year. Various scholarships are available to the children that registered for camp. Please talk to a member of Ad Council if you have any question regarding available scholarships. The members of Henderson believe that summer camp can be not only a fun time but also a spiritually fulfilling event for the youth of our congregation. We will do all that we can to help you and your campers be able to attend this exciting opportunity. Applications should be returned to the church office if you desire any type of financial assistance. We are unable to help with those that are submitted separately.



Ya-hoo!!

It's cookie time!

Thin mints...Tagalongs....Do-is-dos, oh my! Savannah Smiles, Trefoils and mouthwatering Samoas, not to mention this year's newest arrival Raw Raw Raisins. If you haven't already ordered this year's supply of Girl Scout Cookies please contact Michelle, Brandy or leave a message on the office answering machine (453-6041) so that we can meet your needs. No one should be without Girl Scout Cookies. Do not be left behind! Order yours now!!

Girl Scout Troop 30479



Cookie Booths

Thursday, March 5th

Eastway Lanes Bowling

Buffalo Road

6pm-8pm

Friday March 13th

Family Video

East 38th and Davidson

6pm-8pm

Saturday March 21st

Giant Eagle, Summit

11am-2pm

MARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Office Hours M- W- F 10 am – 1 pm unless otherwise posted.

Church Helpers for Sunday Services	
Announcer – Wanda	Scripture – Kathy
Counter - Wanda/Ruby	Ushers – Walter and Youth
Greeter –Ruby	
Sunday, March 1 st	Sunday Services 9:30 am
Monday, March 2 nd	Bible Study 7pm – 8:30 pm at Simpson/Cascade Church
Tuesday, March 3 rd	Bible Study 10am – 11:30 am at Simpson/ Cascade Church Food Pantry Staff Meeting Noon - 1 pm in Ministry Building
Wednesday, March 4 th	9am Pick up perishables at Second Harvest 12 pm – 2 pm Food Pantry Distribution
Thursday, March 5 th	Prayer Time at San Juan with Pastor Ray 12:30 to 1:30
Friday, March 6 th	Food Pick up at Second Harvest 9 am Girl Scout Meeting 6pm – 7 pm
Sunday, March 8 th	Daylight Savings starts Sunday Services 9:30 am
Monday, March 9 th	Bible Study 7pm – 8:30 pm at Simpson/ Cascade Church
Tuesday, March 10 th	Bible Study 10am – 11:30 am at Simpson/ Cascade Church
Thursday, March 12 th	Prayer Time at San Juan with Pastor Ray 12:30 to 1:30
Friday, March 13 th	Food Pick up at Second Harvest 9 am
Sunday, March 15 th	Sunday services 9:30 am
Monday March 16 th	Bible Study 7pm – 8:30 pm at Simpson/ Cascade Church
Tuesday March 17 th	Bible Study 10 am – 11:30 am at Simpson/ Cascade Church
Wednesday March 18 th	9am Pick up perishables at Second Harvest 12pm – 2 pm Food Pantry Distribution
Thursday, March 19 th	Prayer Time at San Juan with Pastor Ray 12:30 to 1:30
Friday March 20 th	Food Pick up at Second Harvest 9 am Girl Scout Meeting 6 pm – 7 pm
Saturday March 21 st	AD Council Meeting 10 am
Sunday March 22 nd	Sunday Service 9:30 am
Monday March 23 rd	Pastor Ray at Bishop Retreat
Tuesday March 24 th	Pastor Ray at Bishop Retreat
Thursday March 26 th	Prayer Time at San Juan with Pastor Ray 12:30 to 1:30
Friday March 27 th	Food pick up at Second Harvest 9 am
March 27 th - 29 th	Girl Scout Service Unit Camp Out
Sunday March 29 th	Palm Sunday Sunday Service 9:30 am
Monday March 30 th	Bible Study 7pm – 8:30 pm at Simpson/ Cascade Church
Tuesday March 31 st	Bible Study 10 am – 11:30 am at Simpson/ Cascade Church Food Pantry Staff Meeting Noon – 1 pm Ministry Bldg
Wednesday April 1 st	9am Pick up perishables at Second Harvest 12pm – 2 pm Food Pantry Distribution