

# Tremont United Methodist Church

www.tremontumc.org

Post Office Box 52  
Tremont, IL 61568  
309) 925-2011



## *The Messenger*

**March 23, 2011**

### ***Pastors' Ponderings***

As I write this letter this month we are being bombarded with news that not only worries us, it also scares us. The ongoing conflicts in Africa and the Middle East with citizens trying to overthrow repressive governments cause us to worry about both the lives being lost and the uncertainty of what will replace those governments. The disastrous earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan have not only caused the loss of thousands of lives, but imperils even more with the potential nuclear meltdown hazard that is brewing.

What are we as disciples of Jesus Christ supposed to do in response? We can't just stick our head in the sand and pretend it doesn't affect us. One look at the stock market and we can see that there are global implications - rising oil and gas prices, falling stock prices, raised terrorist threats.

Our denomination is in the beginning of a three-year campaign to raise \$2.3 million in order to eradicate malaria on the continent of Africa. We are looking for funds to repair the 1904 sanctuary, while still paying off our loan on the new building (the balance, by the way, is down to \$865,600). In my mind, though, this is not bad news. This is just the incentive that tells me God wants us to do more, that God will be there with us to see us through difficult times, and that this life is not about me or us, but is about all of God's creation.

During our journey through Lent I urge you to take extra time to be in communion with God, through prayer, Bible study, and discussion with others about your faith. Use this time to grow closer to one another and closer to God and Jesus.

In His Service, Chet

### **PRAYER LIST - TREMONT UMC, TREMONT, IL**

**Bertha Hedges** (Mary Ann Conover's mother)(2/27)

**Pat Leisey** (aunt of Diana Toepfer)(3/3)

**Zach Messersmith** (3/13)

**Kelly Greer** (friend of Peggy Flannigan)(2/22)

**Nyckee Gorman** (friend of Peggy Flannigan)(2/22)

The Family of **Kim Carroll** (2/22)

**The People of Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, and Middle East**

**Shirley Hankes** (Pat Sinn's mother)(2/22)

The UMC "**Imagine No Malaria**" Campaign

**Marilyn Weaver** (Marte Connelly's boss)(2/27)

**Craig Pflederer** (3/3)

**Agnes Brawner** (Lynn Travis' mother)(3/3)

**Kevin Sharer** (3/4)

The Family of **Harold Dunlap** (Mark's Father)(3/7)

**Jada Rumbold** (3/6)

**Willie Heberer** (friend of Pam Schmidgall)(3/6)

The Family of **Ray Tyler** (3/7)

The Family of **Lonny Wiseman** (relatives of Jim and Sue Evans)(3/9)

The Family of **Alice Siscoe** (3/13)

Japan and the earthquake/tsunami victims

**Ellen Hankes** (Pat Sinn's sister)(3/13)

**Zeta Nelson** (3/13)

### ***OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS***

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Feb. 6	241	126	\$ 6,764.06
Feb. 13	200	0	\$ 3,117.00
Feb. 20	195	83	\$ 5,727.97
Feb. 27	218	88	\$ 11,138.81
<b>Average</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>99</b>	

**Benevolent Giving \$0.00**

**Average Contributions \$ 6,686.96**  
**Amount needed each week to meet our budgeted expenses \$ 6,000.00**

### **Next Newsletter - Wednesday, April 26, 2011**

**All information and articles due at the church office on or before Friday, April 22, 2011**

**Check out our church website at Tremontumc.org You will be informed of all the activities and events that are happening here at TUMC!!!**

Call or stop by the church office to pick up your **Statement of Giving** for 2010 if you need the information for your tax statements.

### **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

Sign up sheets are posted on Sign -Up Central for providing chancel flowers throughout the year, providing brunch on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month and also helping at the Food Pantry. Please take advantage of these opportunities to serve. **Available dates to provide chancel flowers for the next quarter: April 10, May 1, May 22 and June 5th.**

**Thank you** to the ladies who provided the delicious food at my mons funeral dinner. It was nice of you to share your talent.

Michael Siscoe

### **Church Camp**

Church Camp Fun is just around the corner! The 2011 IGRC camping brochure is out! If you love the great outdoors, meeting new people and growing closer to God around the campfire, please pick up a brochure and registration/health form (on table by front door in the Narthex) and see which camp interests you! There are camps for first graders and their families, Tweens, junior and senior high. There are even camps available for Grandparents to go with their grandkids!! TUMC will pay half of your registration too! Registration and health forms are due April 13th. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Jill Kunzeman at 925-7107 or [jknzmn@telstar-online.net](mailto:jknzmn@telstar-online.net)

Jill Kunzeman

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The Education Committee met Feb. 16. We are in the process of forming several small groups including one on marriage and one on divorce which will

tentatively be held on Sunday afternoons or evenings, coming soon. We would also like to bring back the Fellowship Dinners, with possibly adding a small bible study with it. **\*\*We are looking for VBS leader(s) for the summer and are open minded about selecting the date for VBS. Possibilities are to have a 5 day, 3 day or 1 day program.\*\*** Small groups are meeting now to discuss the book "The Myth of the 200 Barrier – How to Lead Through Transitional Growth" which helps us how to maneuver through the experience of larger congregations getting larger and smaller congregations getting smaller. We also discussed this possibly being a church-wide study. SS classes are going well with good attendance. We also set dates for our 2011 meetings.

### **From The Mission Committee**

This year the **Lenten Offering** is being collected for two missions. We are dividing the amount collected between House of Hope, which is a shelter for domestic abuse, and Peoria's South Side Mission who provide many meals and services to those needing assistance with housing, meds, etc.

If you want your donation to go to one charity only, please advise on your check/envelope, otherwise it will be evenly disbursed.

## Tweens

A big thank you to Eric Williams, Stephanie Williams, Anna Saal, and Catherine Ealey for helping with Youth Sunday and supporting the Senior High in a special service to introduce "Imagine No Malaria" to the congregation. The Tweens are looking forward to continued lessons and education about the Malaria problem in Africa and what we can do as a small group to help in the efforts to end this terrible disease. Upon request from Stephanie Williams, the Tweens will be making thank you cards for Stu Horton and sending well wishes for our Home Town Hero who in so many ways not only touched so many hearts, but saved the lives of some of our very own here at TUMC. Thanks Stephanie, what a great idea!!!! The Tweens would like to help out our very own daycare and will be coordinating with the Junior High group and Jennifer for ideas that would be helpful and rewarding for everyone. We will finish April with one last session from God's Not Boring series on Friendships by looking at the book of Mark. Parents please look for send

home notes on details for group outing and mission work that are in the works!!! I am looking forward to April and having fun with a great group of Kids!!! Steffany

## United Methodist Women

The Tremont UMW will meet on Wednesday, April 6 at 6:30 P.M. in the fellowship hall. Cathy Thomas and Marthajane Hillman will be providing a musical program. Mary Papenhouse and Ina Eckhoff are the hostesses and Mary will be giving the devotion.

If anyone would be interested in providing the program August 3, November 2, or December 7 please contact me via email at [jeanieo53@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanieo53@hotmail.com) or by phone 840-0953.

I am also looking for someone to do devotions on September 7, October 5, November 2, and December 7 and I need hostesses for November 2 and December 7.

Thank you in advance for your help.  
**Jeanie Oyer**

## One Great Hour of Sharing April 3, 2011 Restoration. Healing. Hope.

The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight. John 9:11b June H. Kim/UMCOR Mohammed and other farmers in nearby villages of Sierra Leone were blinded by river blindness or onchocerciasis." The disease was caused by parasitic worms transmitted by black flies. When Mohammed and his neighbors lost their eyesight, they also lost their only means of providing for their families.

However, today Mohammed can work on his farm in Port Loko District and support his family once again because of UMCOR's work in the West Africa Initiative and the Community Blind Farmer's Association. Through these organizations, blind farmers learn how to return to their fields and find other means of income.

Your participation in One Great Hour of Sharing ensures the success of relief projects like these and gives hope and healing to the world's most vulnerable people.

## Health Fair

Tremont United Methodist Church is holding a Community-Wide Health

Fair at the Tremont High School on **April 16, 2011 from 8am-12pm**. All members of our community and neighboring communities are invited to attend. Some but not all of our services are listed below:

**Free:** Pulmonary function testing; heel screening for bone density; carotid doppler studies (screens for risk of stroke), and free skin screenings for skin cancer.

**Free but requires fasting:** Cholesterol, glucose, and abdominal ultrasound (screens for abdominal aortic aneurysm) **NO FOOD 8-12 HOURS, ONLY WATER, PRIOR TO CHOLESTEROL & GLUCOSE TESTING. NO FOOD OR WATER 12 HOURS PRIOR TO ABDOMINAL ULTRASOUND.**

**Minimal charge screenings:** EKG - \$40 and Prostate Screening blood test \$25 – Please call Cindy at 925-5805 to secure your spot. We must have a minimum of 20 persons to offer these services.

**Mammograms** will also be provided. Appointments are encouraged but not required. Please make certain that your insurance will cover testing done

by Methodist Medical Center of Illinois. If you are uninsured or under insured, discuss this at the time of making your appointment. Call 671-8282 for your appointment.

### ***Sr. High UMYF***

It's hard to believe this school year is coming to an end! I truly have had a great time with the Senior High Youth group this year and look for more next year! I wanted to provide an update on our activities for April:

- April 3 Winter Jam
- April 5 No Meeting youth Council members only
- April 9 Loaves n Fishes in Peoria
- April 11 Monicals Fundraiser
- April 13 Meeting
- April 20 Meeting at the Toepfers (Diana Toepfer hosting)
- April 27 Meeting
- April 30 Garage Sale Fundraiser

We are currently collecting items for the annual garage sale. So, spring cleaning? We can use your items: remember one man junk is another man's treasure! If you have anything, please let Tina or Chet know.

### **BREAD FOR THE WORLD**

Bread for the World Update

Many of you wrote letters last fall to our legislators asking for an extension of the Earned Income Tax Credit for low income families. That goal was reached in December when Congress voted a two-year extension.

The president of Bread for the World thanks those who supported the tax credits and says that they will keep 2.4 million people from falling into poverty.

### **College Ministry**

The College Ministry of the Congregational Care Committee is assembling and sending "care packages" to our college students again this spring. We want to ask the congregation's help in getting the items we need to put together 37 boxes of goodies. If you would like to help, there is a sign up sheet in the narthex. If you would rather give a donation that would be greatly appreciated, as well. We will assemble the packages on April 26th; so, please have the items in the church office by Sunday, April 24th.

### ***Molly's Memo***

Spring has sprung!!! I have never been one to plant flowers or tend to them mainly because I don't have a green thumb. But, surprising enough

to me, I have been able to BARELY keep the mothers' day plant that I received from the UMM on Mother's Day alive!!! That has been quite a feat for me and I am rather proud of myself.

Looking back on where we were and where we are is always a good thing to do. One, because it helps us realize what we have done and what we should have done. So it helps us refocus our priorities of life.

So look back over the CHALLENGE 11 in 2011. How have you been doing in our church wide attempt to make a difference in Christ's kingdom??? I hope that as the months continue that you will continue to build on the spiritual disciplines of the prior months. If at any time you have questions about prayer, bible study, mission, etc. - feel free to call or stop by and talk with Pastor Chet or myself. Nothing we would love more than to talk about how to deepen our spirituality.

Having raised the topic of deepening our spiritual life, would anyone be interested in a study on the gifts and fruits of the spirit, or the disciplines of a Christian life, a disciple bible study class or a beginner class for Christians? We want to offer you studies and groups that are of interest to you. Maybe a course on parenting or

finances – maybe grief or marriage? None of us are experts in all these areas of our life and we want the church to be here to help you with life challenges as we attempt to be Christians in a sin-filled world. Please email or call me your ideas to mollyhawk@tremontumc.org or 618.780.1355

As a response to a need not only in our church but in the community we are now offering DIVORCE CARE which is a 13-week session. It is a confidential, intimate meeting of others who are struggling with the same feelings and the need for healing. The first meeting was held on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. It is not too late to come and join this small group and/or invite someone you know. If you would like more information on divorce care go to [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org). There are daily emails and many other resources other than this 13-week study that you will find on this web site.

April will mark one year since I started here. And as I look back on one committee in particular I can see where God has been "expanding our territory," further than what I had ever imagined. CONGREGATIONAL CARE, formerly known as membership care, has gone from 5 people to more than 40 (and growing) members. This

is due to the seven different ministries that have been formed. 1) Attendance Ministry 2) First Time Ministry 3) Constituent Ministry 4) Inactive Ministry 5) Homebound Ministry 6) College/ Military Ministry 7) Cultivation ministry. Each of these ministries is looking for more people to join. Currently we are looking for members to mentor new people to the church in becoming acquainted and for people interested in teaming up with others to visit those that are homebound. As the committee and ministries are taking shape it has become very evident that we need to build relationships within our church for us to further our work in God's kingdom. Those who receive the care provided by these ministries as well as those providing the care will find them blessed beyond imagination. Please contact Michelle Kreiling if you would like to be a mentor and contact Pat Grimm if you would like to be a part of the visiting team. Also if you know of someone going thru a difficult time please let me, Pastor Chet or Joyce Madsen know so that we can provide the care that they need.

One other committee I would like to mention is our newly formed Health and Wellness committee. While this committee is in their infancy,

along with our parish nurses, they are well on their way to meet their first goal of getting an AED for the church. They have already offered some great information meetings on caring giving and the health fair has grown by leaps this year. They have many other things planned for the upcoming year. What a great vision and power this committee has. Want to be a part? Call Kristen Dotson for your "hook up."

I can honestly say that being a part of Tremont is an exciting time for me. There are so many opportunities to serve and many ministries opening up continuously. We are about our vision of making Disciples of Christ as well as loving each other. So, as we continue into the year of 2011, don't be sucked into the negativity of the challenges that we face, but rather focus on the possibilities we have and the things we are doing! God is good - all the time!

Molly

### April Birthdays

April 1: Lynn Travis  
 April 4: Charles Gates III, Kaden Rutherford  
 April 5: Nicole Simkins, Alicia Horton, Krista Moore  
 April 6: Britt Davison, Lindsay Voight

Barnett  
 April 8: Andy Coddington  
 April 9: Payton Bauer  
 April 10: Marie Dillon  
 April 12: Bill Barr  
 April 13: Shawn Orr, Larry Stroh  
 April 14: Reese Jeppson  
 April 18: Shanna Miller  
 April 19: Pat West, Erin Martiens  
 April 21: Wendy Grant Schweigert  
 April 22: Laura Saal  
 April 23: Ryan Grant  
 April 24: Joan Miller, Anissa Sauder  
 April 25: Rachele Parn  
 April 26: Gerald Madsen, Bret Saal, Darcy Mason Wathern  
 April 27: Alexis Potts, Abigail Moore Dykman  
 April 28: Jonathan Nelson  
 April 29: Drake Barnett  
 April 30: Madilyn Schmidt

### April Anniversaries

April 4: Chuck and Sue Walker - #31  
 April 6: Ken and Dianne Couch - #37  
 April 7: Bret and Jenni Saal - #10  
 April 12: Scott and Kara Lackey - #14

### Our Shut-Ins

Apostolic Christian Restmor  
 1500 Parkside, Morton IL 61550  
 Eileen Beutel

Alice Siscoe  
 Edith Pfelderer  
 Apostolic Christian Restmor  
 1500 Parkside, Juniper Room 514B  
 Morton IL 61550

Nancy Clow  
 Hopedale Commons  
 Hopedale, IL 61747

**Hopedale Nursing Home**  
**107 Tremont Street**  
**Hopedale, IL 61747**  
 Esther Schurter  
 Tessa Abell  
 Henry Schurter

Naomi Eichelberger  
 2122 Hillcrest  
 Pekin IL 61554-6123

Cynthia Nash  
 PO Box 509  
 Tremont IL 61568

Mary Oberlander  
 John Evans Support Living  
 Community  
 1320 Executive Court  
 Apt. 131  
 Pekin IL 61554

Eunice McMullen

Bickford of Peoria, Apt 110,  
1920 W. Willow Knolls Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61614

Marceline Stevens  
Rosewood Nursing Center  
900 Centennial Drive, Room 101  
East Peoria IL 61611

Barbara Papenhaus  
700 North McLean Blvd.  
Room 272  
South Elgin, IL 60177

Marge Barnard  
PO Box 849  
Tremont IL 61568

Joan Miller  
PO Box 16  
Tremont IL 61568

Duane and Zeta Nelson  
21811 Butternut Lane  
Delavan IL 61734

Keith Cluts  
Hallmark Nursing Home  
2501 Allentown Road  
Room 107  
Pekin IL 61554

Mark Grimm  
407 W. Armstrong

Peoria IL 61614

Pat Nelson  
Grand Victorian  
2700 South 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Pekin IL 61554

Zeta Nelson  
Hallmark Nursing Home  
2501 Allentown Road  
Pekin IL 61554

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE February 2011**

### **Beginners**

Audrey Parn,  
Mrs. Amy Bowman

### **Kindergarten**

Aspen McMillan  
Anna Parn  
Ms. Jan Gibson  
Mrs. Barb Gibson

### **1st Grade**

Marley Aluyi  
Jordan Hazelman  
Marijane McMillan  
Mrs. Judy Ropp

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Olivia Simkins  
Michael Simmons

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Mo Aluyi  
Jason Moore  
Mrs. Marilyn Toepfer

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Bo Aluyi

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Eric Williams  
Stephanie Williams

Mrs. Carla Williams

### **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Mrs. Shawn Orr

### **Sister Chics**

Val Moore  
Tina Nelson  
Nichole Simkins  
Debbi Wendel  
Michelle Williams

### **Discipleship**

Judy Connor  
Harlan Dillon  
Paloma Dillon  
Bill Elliott  
Marilyn Lindstrom  
Donna Sinn

### **Topics Class**

Shelley Nguyen  
Tung Nguyen  
AJ Parn  
Rachelle Parn  
Natalie Messersmith

## **JAPAN RELIEF**

## **WE GOT THE CALL!**

We at Midwest Mission Distribution Center have received the call to help send relief to Japan. The first shipment goal is 17,000 health kits and we need your help! We are looking for supplies and/or monetary donations to reach our goal. If you choose to send a monetary donation, please make check payable to TUMC and indicate on the memo line **health kit/Japan relief.** In addition let us all lift up a prayer for those in Japan and those with loved ones in Japan, that have been affected by this disaster.

What goes into a health kit, you may ask?

**1 Hand Towel** (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", no kitchen towels)

**1 Washcloth**

**1 Comb** (large & sturdy, not pocket size or pic)

**1 Nail file or Fingernail Clipper** (no emery boards or toenail clippers)

**1 Bath-size Bar of Soap** (3 oz. or larger in original wrapper)

**1 Toothbrush** (single brushes only-in original wrapper, no child-size brushes) (no multiple packs) (no dentist name or phone number)

**1 Tube of Toothpaste 6.4 oz** or larger. Check expiration dates-must be at least ONE YEAR ahead.) (You

may leave out and send \$1.00)

**6 Adhesive Plastic Strip Sterile Bandages** (regular size and wrapped in a rubber band) Wrap the items in the hand towel. Items should be placed in a new, one gallon plastic zip closure bag. Please make sure all items are correct sizes. If they are not the correct size, they are unusable. In addition, health kit items in bulk are very desirable as well.

Thank you for your support!

**Tremont United Methodist Church**  
**112 West Pearl Street**  
**Tremont, IL 615688**

8::30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. Sunday Worship  
9:45 A.M. Sunday School

Church phone: 309-925-2011  
Pastor's home: 309-925-7361  
Sampson Street Phone: 309-925-9978  
E-mail: [tumc@tremontumc.org](mailto:tumc@tremontumc.org)  
WebSite: [Tremontumc.org](http://Tremontumc.org)

**Address Service Requested**

**Pastor: Chet Travis**  
**Dir. of Family Ministries: Molly Spence-Hawk**  
**Organist: Don Nieukirk, Marthajane Hillman**  
**Sanctuary Choir Director: Marilyn Toepfer**  
**Administrative Assistant: Carol Gibson**  
**Jr. & Sr. High Ministries Directors:**  
**Tina Reinbeck and Michelle Williams**  
**Childcare Center Director: Jennifer Hendrickson**

