

March 2021

Williamsville United Methodist Church Newsletter

WUMC

128 E. Jones, P.O. Box 79

Williamsville, IL 62693

217-566-3614

wumc@casscomm.com

Shane Sims, Pastor

Tracey Tiskos, Administrative Asst.

Birthdays

2 - Kathy Tobias
6 - Dave Benner
6 - Debbie Strong
6 - Grace Sherrock
11 - Kelsie Tobias
13 - Sue Bishop
16 - Marcia McCall
17 - Donna Slavens
18 - Todd Marshall
18 - Tom Yokley
23 - Rob Konzelmann
26 - Neal Tucker

UMW March meeting will be on Wednesday the 10th at 6:30 pm.

WUMC Propelled

2 Cor 5:14-15

It's a new card ministry of WUMC that shares the message of the Gospel and connects folks to the church and to the prayer team when desired is starting up in February.

If you would like to add a name to the card list and/or the prayer list please contact Tracey (566-3614) or Polly (622-1363) with their name and address.

Bible Study Updates

We have five persons involved in the study by Max Lucado, "He Chose the Nails". This class meets on Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11. "He Chose the Nails" is an easy read with common anecdotes and references, while focusing on the awesome love that God has for us. It is a perfect book for this Lenten season to read alone or in a group. It causes me to stop and ponder, to love and obey the one who gives purpose to our lives. We have 5 more books available.

Nine ladies are participating in the evening on-line study, "Discerning the Voice of God" by Priscilla Shirer. This study is also very impactful, with a topic suitable for any time of year. The lesson is presented in an engaging manner on DVD with daily reading in a workbook to drive home the concepts.

In both Bible studies, our first topic was obedience. Lucado underscored the obedience of Jesus and his fierce love for us. In our discussion we were talking about Jesus being fully human and fully God. Cherie gave us a wonderful illustration on how to wrap our minds around being fully God and fully human. "If you loved ants, and you wanted to know everything about being an ant, to fully know, you would have to become an ant. An ant...6 legs, small, easy-to-be stepped on, hole in the ground, carrying off the picnic one load at a time...industrious ant, black ant, red ant, carpenter ant...ant. You get the picture. To really know, you would have to become an ant."

God came down from heaven. Omnipotent, omnipresent, Spirit, Creator, Sustainer, came to Earth in a human body, as a baby... from diapers to skinned knees, to preteen, to adolescent, to fully man. Jesus loved you enough to become one of you. Stuck in a body that sweat, got tired, and walked miles in a day all because he loved you that much. Kind of makes you want to get to know him, doesn't it?

Shirer's lesson was more straight forward..."Hearing Him starts with our commitment to humble obedience. We won't do it perfectly...we can't always obey flawlessly...but we must do it purposefully, with ears primed to hear and discern God's voice." Look it up in Scripture. It's there. John 7:17 and 14:21. Obedience is the key to unlock God's blessing.

Both are very interesting and worthwhile studies. They will prompt you to live courageously for God, the one who loves you enough to die for you.

And just in case you missed it...

Pastor Shane's message Feb. 21 was on obedience also. Three unrelated authors. Three messages. All presented this week without prior collaboration, all focused on one topic, obedience. Hmmmm...., there must be something that God wants us to know. Obedience to God in our private lives, in our church lives, in our homes, and in our community.

"...Get obsessed with prayer, make time for it, move things around, change things up, get rid of...whatever it takes—Get alone with God... Crave it like the air you breathe.

Make God not a priority, but THE priority in all life has to throw at us, the good and not so good. Following Jesus does not mean easy sailing. It means he will captain the ship.

And lastly, get going when God says move... take your step of faith, be in training when God has not shown you the next steps, keep praying, studying Scripture, fasting, reporting, worshipping. God commands us to seek Him. Put Him in everything. We are to be obedient...we get to be obedient.

Regardless of how you are feeling, whatever emotion is telling you to stop, if God says go...we go.

When the Holy Spirit wants us to move, we move. I live by this rule. If we live lives that never require faith to do it, then we have missed the sweetest of blessings to be at the end of ourselves and completely reliant on God.

And where do you think death leads? To the end of ourselves and completely reliant on God and his promises.

Let us live as those who trust and obey the one true living God..."

Quilts and Prayer Shawls

Pastor Shane blessed 13 quilts for Cunningham Children's Home in Champaign. We hope to deliver them this spring.

Pastor also blessed the 10 prayer shawls. We have given beautiful prayer shawls to Tami Mossman and Riley, a teenager hospitalized with depression. The prayer shawls were made with love by Alice Franklin. Thank you, Alice, for sharing your talents and yarn in this loving ministry. If anyone knows of someone in need of prayers and who may like a prayer shawl please contact the Prayer Team at the church.

UMW Bakeless Bake Sale Fundraiser

The UMW will be collecting for another week and thus far has raised over \$700!

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions of 2020, the sources of our income to make these donations were cancelled:

- February Book Fair
- Cookbook Sales
- December Cookie Walk

So this year, we're proposing a Bakeless Bake Sale—no gathering ingredients, no baking confections, no buying plates of goodies. We are asking that you put a monetary donation in an envelope and bring it to church on the 14th or address it to church, attn. UMW and drop in the mail. This will allow the United Methodist Women to continue to "expand concepts of mission." Thank you for your support.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS

In November my oncologist told me my cancer was growing. In December, Pastor asked me to give a witness on living with joy and trusting God. Not something I was really comfortable with on "Facebook Live", but ok. In January, I was motivated to lead two different Bible studies at the same time. Now this was REALLY crazy and beyond my comfort zone! Any of you that know me, know my short-term memory is horrible and my technology skills are bad at best. Really, two different studies???. Ok, I'll give it a try. All of this required much prayer and searching of Scripture. And today, Feb. 22, I found out that the cancer tumors in my abdomen have not grown in 3 months. In fact, they have slightly decreased in size!!

Now, that is a huge THANK YOU JESUS! God isn't finished with me. His plan for my life continues. Whether, one hour, one day, one month, or one year, it doesn't matter. When my appointment with Jesus is called, I will be ready. With God's gracious help, I will be obedient. 1)Priority 2)Pray 3)Obedience.

THANK YOU to all of you who have been praying for me. God hears your prayers and answers them. Maybe there is more to obedience and prayer than I dreamed... not maybe, there is more!

And for all of those that have asked us to pray for you, know that there is a dedicated group of people praying for you too. Use this time of waiting to get into Scripture and discover just how much God loves you. Let God speak to your heart. Priority, prayer and obedience. **Would you like to know more about prayer and obedience? We encourage you to contact us: Church Address: 128 E. Jones St, PO Box 79, Williamsville, IL 62693; Phone: 217-566-3614;**

wumc@casscomm.com; www.williamsvilleumc.com