

The Messenger

February 2014



Please join us for worship each weekend:
Casual Saturday night worship with *Springs* at 5:30 PM
Sunday morning worship and Sunday school at 9:15 AM
Sunday worship and children's church at 10:35 AM
Sunday contemporary service with *Eureka Park* at 5:00 PM

First United
Methodist
Church
of
Springboro

60 East North Street
Springboro, OH 45066

937-748-2612

fumcofspringboro.org
rebeccafumc@gmail.com

Office hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00-1:00

Inside this issue:

<i>From the Pastor</i>	2
<i>Worship Theme</i>	3
<i>Church Business</i>	4
<i>Group Meetings</i>	7
<i>Events</i>	8
<i>Education</i>	11
<i>Youth News</i>	13
<i>Agents of Change</i>	17

A word from Pastor Suzanne...

Dear friends,

We have begun 2014 remembering that we are awash in grace. Grace is what sets us apart as Christians. It is God's unmerited favor, poured out on us. Grace shapes our identity, forgives and renews us, and makes us more holy. It is a gift offered freely to each one of us. Reflecting on Romans 3:24 and God's grace, John Wesley says, "It is not possible to find words that should more absolutely exclude all consideration of our own works and obedience or more emphatically ascribe the whole justification to free unmerited goodness." To use any gift well, however, we have to grow in it. Growing in something means we have to practice.

We have all heard the phrase "practice makes perfect." Studies show that this is true. Even the most talented individuals have to practice. And more often than not, it is those who are dedicated to practicing and persevering even when something doesn't come easily, who become the most accomplished at something. Their initial level of talent or giftedness doesn't matter nearly as much as their commitment to practicing.

This is true in our faith as well. In order for us to grow as Christians, we must practice grace—receiving grace, living in grace, sharing grace. We must allow God's grace to stretch us and challenge us. We must practice it in our relationships within the church and in society, in our families, and in all that we do. The church is a training ground for grace. It is a place where we celebrate God's grace and practice sharing it with each other and the world, knowing that it is a gift that goes far beyond what we deserve.

We will never be perfect, but God's grace is.

May we choose each day to practice and live in God's amazing grace!

Pastor Suzanne



Worship in February

Feb. 2nd: Worship Series "Awash In Grace"
 Holy Communion
 Scripture: Matthew 18:21-35,
 Galatians 2:15-21
 Message: Grace in Society

Feb. 9th: Worship Series "Awash In Grace"
 Scripture: Matthew 13:24-30,
 Ephesians 2:1-10
 Message: Grace in Everything

Feb. 16th: "Questions from the Sermon on the Mount"
 Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12
 Message: Are You Blessed?

Feb. 23rd: "Questions from the Sermon on the Mount"
 Scripture: Matthew 5:13-20
 Message: Are You Salty?



Events

- 1—God Squad
- 1—Life Line Screening
- 2—Mission 56 & Jammers
- 2—Youth Group
- 3—SPRC
- 4—Spiritual Gifts Class
- 5—Wonderful Wed.
- 5—Choir & Handbells
- 8—Building Comm.
- 8 and 9—WIF Cookie Walk
- 9—Scout Sunday
- 9—Youth Group
- 10—Missions
- 10—Living Our Beliefs
- 11—WIF Bible Study
- 11—Stephen Ministers
- 12—Wonderful Wed.
- 12—Choir & Handbells
- 15—Total Food Makeover
- 16—Kids Who Care
- 16—Mission 56
- 16—Youth Group
- 18—Trustees
- 19—Clearcreakers
- 19—Wonderful Wed.
- 19—Choir & Handbells
- 23—Youth Group
- 24—Living Our Beliefs
- 25—Stephen Ministers
- 26—Wonderful Wed.
- 26—Choir & Handbells

*See details in this
 newsletter*

Church Business



Lay Leader Report

The snow is flying as I type these words. Of course, flying snow could be found on most days since mid-December. I saw the class roster for Doug Dean's class on Spiritual Gifts. I'm very pleased that so many of us are exploring the ways in which the Holy Spirit has blessed us. We will also have a class on *Living Our Beliefs – the United Methodist Way*. This class will meet on Monday nights, on January 27, February 10 and 24, and March 17 and 31. It is not necessary to attend each night, so please stop in as schedule allows.

I've not yet heard of any, but if there is interest in sharing my notes on the *Living Our Beliefs* class to be used in an on-line setting, I will be glad to do that. So please let me know if you'd like to participate, but can't attend on Monday nights.

Looking out to March, a different learning opportunity exists. Jack Hott, Kim Crosen and myself have been participants in the church's Lay Speaking program for years. In 2012, General Conference changed the program a bit, including the name. It is now called Lay Servant Ministries since the opportunities for laity to serve extend far beyond pulpit supply. Classes will be offered on March 1 and 2 for those who wish to enter this program. Classes will also be offered for those who are already in the program – e.g. Jack, Kim and myself, who wish to meet the continuing education requirements. Please see me for more information or registration assistance. I will attend the classes that weekend and can help with transportation.

My dear friend Sidney Vinnell was a delight in many ways. One of those was he offered a constant Count Down to Spring. Every Sunday, Sidney shared with all of us the number of bleak winter days until spring arrived. So in that spirit, I share that as of February 1, only 48 more days of winter until spring arrives. Stay warm!

David Finney

New Member Reception

We will be receiving new members into the church on the weekend of February 22 and 23. If you are interested in joining, please contact Mike Stull at 748-8699 or stullhome@gmail.com.

Interfaith Hospitality Network—Committees Forming

Thank you to everyone who helped make our two weeks as an IHN host church successful. During their time here, one family found permanent housing and a second family was very close. What wonderful success for the program! In 2014, we will be hosting June 1-8, July 6 – 13 and December 21-January 4.

For those new to IHN: Since 1998, IHN has provided temporary housing assistance to over 1,000 individuals. Homelessness knows no boundaries. It can strike because of natural disaster, fire, loss of employment, foreclosure, illness, injury, abandonment, or lack of skills to find employment. To date, over 40% of those IHN has helped have children.

We would like to move to a new model in terms of First United's IHN hosting. In the past, we've had one person responsible for coordinating the entire effort, which can be a challenge. We want to move forward with an IHN Committee, comprised of a leader (who is the contact for IHN and responsible for the entire program) and several people who each take responsibility for a different function. We see team leaders responsible for: overnight hosts, activities/evening hosts, dinners, breakfasts, set up and tear down, and food and supply volunteers. Each team leader would be responsible for recruiting and building a team to assist with the functions of that team. For example, the Dinner Team Leader is responsible for recruiting families or groups to provide dinner each night during their stay.

Please prayerfully consider if this is a committee that you would like to participate on. Our IHN experiences are rewarding and provide a great service to our community. If you'd like to participate, please reach out to Rebecca Delbridge at 748-2612 or rebeccafumc@gmail.com and let her know.

Nursery Attendant Position

We are searching for a nursery attendant(s) for the both the 9:15 a.m. and 10:35 a.m. Sunday services. Ideally, we'd like to find two individuals who would work every other weekend, allowing time to attend Sunday School and Church on the off weeks. If you would be interested in learning more about this position, or you know someone who would, please reach out to Rebecca in the office and she'll pass your information on to the SPRC. Thank you!

*“A church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints.”
~ Abigail Van Buren (Dear Abby)*

2013 Financial Results

Thanks to all in our church for your faithful giving throughout 2013. We began 2013 with a general budget of \$315,000. Although giving was slightly under this number at \$305,000, we were able to offset this through some cost savings we realized during the year so that we ended the year with a surplus of \$8,000. In addition to the general budget giving, you also contributed \$38,000 to help pay down the debt in our building fund.

For 2013, our general budget is \$300,000, a decrease from last year's spending. The budget takes into account some cost savings we began to realize this year but has added in some funds for a senior high youth leader as well as increased funding for missions.

Thank you again for your financial gifts to the church. Your giving continues to help us accomplish much in the church, in the community and in the world in Jesus' name.

Giving Envelopes and End of Year Statements

2014 giving envelopes are available outside the Sanctuary. There is a sheet available for you to either sign-up for envelopes if you did not receive any OR to indicate that you no longer need to receive envelopes (i.e. you utilize the Electronic Giving option). End of year statements were mailed in January. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Stull at tstull42@hotmail.com or 748-8699.

New Acolyte

Caleb Hansman recently completed acolyte training at church. He will be joining Faith Hampton, Jacob Hams, Truman Hoy, Theo DeRosa and Amanda Schlise as acolytes. Thank you all for your service to our church.

Church Member Contact Information

As we begin the new year, the church office wants to verify we have correct contact records for our church members. We have placed a master copy of all active households on the table outside of the Sanctuary. Over the next few weeks, we ask each family to review this record to ensure we have addresses and phone numbers correct. In addition, if you are not receiving the weekly updates from Pastor Suzanne, please contact the church office so we can correct or add your e-mail address in our records. Thank you in advance for helping us stay in touch!

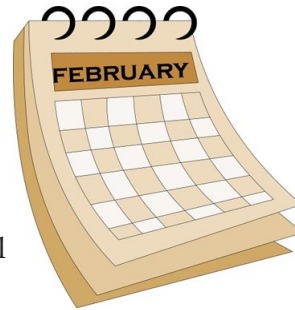
Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed February 17 for Presidents' Day.

Church Groups – Meetings/Schedules

Clearcreakers Senior Group

The Clearcreakers meeting will be February 19th at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall (weather permitting). The program will be a fun game of Bingo and, back by popular demand, chocolate bar prizes. A chili lunch will be served (soup bowls will be furnished). Please bring a salad or dessert to share and your own eating utensils. Try to join us for some fun, food, and fellowship. Questions, call: Liz , Vivian or Clara.



Women in Faith

The Women in Faith meeting will be Saturday, February 22 at 9:00 a.m. We will meet in Fellowship Hall for coffee (and coffee cake if someone wants to volunteer) and discuss plans for the Spaghetti Dinner.

The Women in Faith Bible Study is now held on the second Tuesday of each month. For February, that is the 11th. All women of the church are invited to join this study. We are currently reading a novel titled *Luke's Story* by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins. This will be followed with a study of the Book of Luke and some of Paul's letters later in the year.

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Men ("UMM") is the men's group of our church. It is open to all men in our faith community. UMM actively supports projects and groups throughout our church and the greater Springboro community. In order to fund these efforts, UMM and other church volunteers work at Dayton Dragon's baseball games, with the proceeds going to the UMM's treasury. We will soon be looking for volunteers to work Dragons games during the 2014 season. Please watch the bulletin for more information on these opportunities as well as future UMM events.

Other Group Meeting Dates

SPRC – Feb. 3, Conference Room

Building Committee – Feb. 8, Fellowship Hall

Missions – Feb. 10, Fellowship Hall

Stephen Ministers - Feb. 11 and 25, Fellowship Hall and Senior High Room

Trustees – Feb. 18, Conference Room

FEBRUARY

EVENTS

Young Family Pizza Night

Pastor Suzanne invites any families with young children to get together for a night of pizza and socializing. It will be on Friday, January 31 at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity for you to get to know one another while your children play. If you are interested, please RSVP to Rebecca in the church office (748-2612 or rebeccafumc@gmail.com) so we know how much pizza to order.

Women in Faith Cookie Walk

The Women in Faith will sponsor a Cookie/Cupcake Walk on February 8 and 9. A variety of cookies and cupcakes will be displayed after the Saturday service and after both services on Sunday. WIF is also asking for donations of baked goods so we hope you will get out your aprons and bake some delicious cookies or cupcakes! Donations can be brought into the kitchen on February 7, 8 and 9th. Please be sure to label them "WIF Cookie Walk". Thank you!!

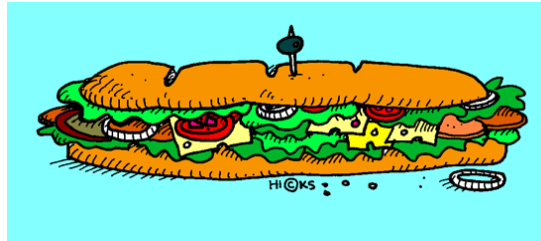


Wonderful Wednesdays Continue

We hope you will join us on Wednesdays for dinner at 6 p.m., for a short informal worship service at 6:50 p.m., and for small group studies for all ages at 7:20 p.m.

February 9 is Scout Sunday

All scouts are invited to wear their uniforms and attend worship on Sunday, February 9. The Boy Scouts will help lead and be emphasized in the 9:15 service. The Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts will help lead and be emphasized in the 10:35 service. Please contact Tracy Still if you have a scout who would like to help as a greeter, liturgist, or usher.



Sub Sale!

Our God Squad group will be pre-selling “subs” for the Super Bowl on January 26. Subs will be ready for pick-up on Sunday, February 2. They are 8" Italian subs (ham, provolone cheese, salami, and pepperoni) and veggie subs (peppers, tomatoes, lettuce and cheese). They will be for sale for \$4 or 4/\$15. Plan on including these subs in your Super Bowl festivities. It will help you out and you will be helping us out!

Life Line Screening

Our church will serve as a host location for Life Line Screenings on Saturday, February 1. This event is sponsored by the hospitals of Premier Health, including Miami Valley, Good Samaritan Hospital/Dayton Heart and Vascular Hospital, Atrium Medical Center, and Upper Valley Medical Center. If you would like more information about the event, please see the flyers and posters on the Mission table in Fellowship Hall or you can visit their website at www.lifelinescreeningblog.com/introduction.

Total Food Makeover Class

Synergy Health and Vitality Center will hold a Total Food Makeover class on Saturday, February 15 at 10:00 in First United Methodist's Sanctuary. The class is open to anyone and costs \$25, which includes a nutrition book. This event provides a practical, sustainable nutrition program. You will learn:

- how simple lifestyle changes can prevent and reverse disease,
- nutrition facts instead of popular nutrition myths and fad diets,
- how to implement a practical, results driven nutrition plan that doesn't deprive you.

To register, call 748-8770 or email synergy@forhealthforlife.com.



Ash Wednesday Worship—March 5th

Join us as we mark the beginning of Lent with a service of repentance and the receiving of ashes. We will once again have a joint service with the United Church of Christ in our sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to join us at 6:00 p.m. for a soup supper. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Lay Servant Training Opportunity

Classes will be offered on March 1 and 2 for anyone interested in serving as a Lay Servant. Please see David Finney for more information or registration assistance. He will attend the classes that weekend and is happy to help with transportation.

The First United Methodist Church of Springboro And The Women in Faith present ...

An evening of Talent Show &

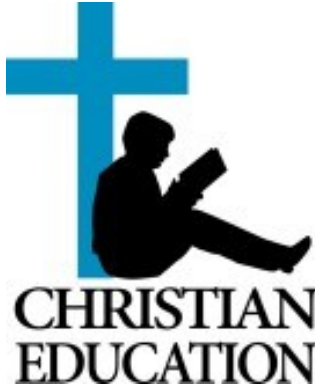


Sunday, March 9, 2014
in the Church Fellowship Hall

Join us for contemporary service with
Eureka Park starting at 5:00 p.m.
Dinner and show will begin simultaneously at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner will be served until 8:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$8.00 and include
spaghetti, salad, bread, drink, dessert & entertainment

Tickets will be on sale starting February 23



Cornerstone Adult Class - Journey Through the Bible

The Cornerstone Sunday School class meets each Sunday during the 9:15 service in the Music Room. The class is informal and open to adults of all ages and stages with lots of time for questions and answers. The class will continue its study of the Acts of the Apostles in February. For more information contact Rosemary Culbreath or just come!

Holy Java

Holy Java will continue their study of *The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth Am I Here For?* by Rick Warren until the end of February. Living out the purpose you were created for moves you beyond mere survival and success to a life of significance---the life you were meant to live. On this journey you'll find the answers to three of life's most important questions: The Question of Existence: Why am I alive? The Question of Significance: Does my life matter? The Question of Purpose: What on earth am I here for? Join Holy Java and start your journey today. Once you take this journey, you'll never be the same again ... it will transform your life! The class will begin a new study in March. For more information, please email Maria Dershem .

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Beginning on Tuesday, February 25, Pastor Suzanne will offer a 22 week study on the Gospel of Matthew based on *Matthew for Everyone* by N.T. Wright. This study will take place at 10 a.m. in the Music room. There are several resources that go along with this study: a Bible study guide, and the books part 1 and 2. You can sign up for the study and order these study resources by contacting Rebecca in the church office: rebeccafumc@gmail.com, 937-748-2612.

Children's Curriculum

The Education Department is looking for a few creative people to help put together a curriculum for our Summer Sunday School program. Please see or call Kim (748-2612 or kimfumc@gmail.com) if you are interested in being a part of the team.

“Living Our Beliefs” Class

David Finney will offer a new course on “Living Our Beliefs”. This series will use the book “*The United Methodist Way – Living Our Beliefs*”, written by Bishop Kenneth Carder. Each session will stand on its own so it is not necessary to attend each session. We will meet on Monday evenings, on January 27, February 10 and 24, March 17 and 31 (please note change of dates for March) in the Conference room across from the church office. Participants can, but are not required, to buy a copy of the book from Cokesbury or Amazon, to read along. Please see David for more information.

V.B.S. Planning

We are still a few months away from kicking off V.B.S preparation but when we have over 80 volunteers and 250 children participate, we like to start planning early! This year’s theme is so wonderful it’s going to take a lot of work! We are already anticipating the excitement. Start thinking of how you would like to participate this year in this fun and exciting ministry! At this time, we need a craft coordinator, a snack coordinator and a decorating team. An overview and planning session for these positions will be Tuesday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m. Please let Kim (kimfumc@gmail.com or 748-2612) know if you are interested.

A woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services, when she was startled by an intruder. She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled: 'Stop! Acts 2:38!' (Repent and be Baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins may be forgiven.)

The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar: “Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you.”

“Scripture?” replied the burglar. “She said she had an ax and two 38's!”

Remember. Knowing scripture can save your life - in more ways than one!



Youth Ministry

In January, all our youth participated together in a Bowl-A-Thon. We had a great time bowling to raise money for activities and missions! We raised about \$150!

Kids Who Care (K-2nd grade)

Plan on meeting on Sunday, February 16 for an afternoon of cooking. We will be making homemade doggie treats and discussing ways to help our furry friends! 1:00-3:00 p.m.

God Squad (3rd & 4th grade)

We will be doing a little bit of fundraising and a little bit of fun! We will be taking orders for subs Sunday, January 26. On Saturday, February 1 we will get together from 7:00-9:00 p.m. to put together subs and fill orders. We will have snacks for the kids and probably a game or two! We will pass out subs on Super Bowl Sunday (2nd). If you'd like to be on our e-mail list, please contact Kim Crosen: kimfumc@gmail.com.

Mission 56 (5th and 6th grade) and Junior High Youth (7th-8th grade)

The Mission 56 & Junior High Youth began 2014 with a great time of fellowship at Strike Zone in Franklin as we helped the smaller children with a game of bowling - I am proud of their willingness to help others and mentor the younger children of our church. The month of January was highlighted by our annual Lock-In - a well-attended event that included games, friendly group competition, time of fellowship, prayer, Christian music, group discussion and a faith-based movie. Thanks to Becki Kauscher for helping to plan the activities and chaperoning the event. Thanks also to our Senior High Mentors, Erin Stalcup and Devin Cook, for their help. Everyone had a great time.

Yours in Christ,
Kirby Cain

Activities List on next page

Mission 56 and Junior High Youth Continued

Here are the activities planned for the month of February:

Weekly Activities

- Sunday Night Service and Youth Group: We begin at 5:00 p.m. with worship service with *Eureka Park* and move onto games from 5:50 –6:15. At 6:15, we join for dinner then participate in Bible study and discussion from 6:45 to 7:30. We are asking the youth to bring \$3.00 each week to cover the cost of dinner.
- Wonderful Wednesdays—We begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner followed by a short service at 6:45. From 7:15 to 8:00, Kirby leads a Bible study and discussion for 5th—8th graders.
- Every Friday - LIFT (Grades 6 - 8): Meets after school until 3:30 p.m. at Springboro Junior High.

February Special Events

- Sunday, February 2 - Church, Lunch & Fellowship (Grades 5 - 8): All Mission 56 and Junior High Youth are invited to sit with Kirby during the 10:35 service, then go out for lunch. We will return to the church for a time of fellowship. We should be done around 3:00 pm.
- Tuesday, February 4 - Service Project - Hope House Mission Center for Women and Children: Provide dinner/games for the women and children of Hope House in Middletown from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. We need a maximum of 8 youth and 2 parents to assist in this opportunity to serve.
- Tuesday, February 11 - Lunch with 6th graders at Springboro Intermediate (FUMC Youth Only): Kirby will provide drinks and dessert. Please pack your lunch and join us for this time of fellowship.
- Wednesday, February 12 - Lunch with 7th and 8th graders at Springboro Junior High (FUMC Youth Only): Kirby will provide drinks and dessert. Please pack your lunch and join us for this time of fellowship.
- Saturday, February 15 - New Event!! - “The 3””: Third Saturday of every month at the Coffman YMCA. \$3 for 3 hours (6:30-9:30 p.m.) of fun, pizza, and drinks. All 6th- 8th grade students are welcome. This is a community-wide event. Swimming, sports, music, games, and more!

Continued on next page

Mission 56 and Junior High Youth Continued

- Sunday, February 16 - Sunday Gathering for Mission 56: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. (at the Church). Mission 56 families are encouraged to attend the 5:00 p.m. service afterwards.
- Friday, February 21 and Saturday, February 22 - Christ in Youth Believe Youth Conference (Grades 7 - 8) at Bank of Kentucky Center: Early Registration ended January 19th, however, it is not too late to register. Contact Kirby for more information. Registration fee is \$65 by February 6th or \$75 at the day of the event. Room fee is \$25. Additional costs will include two meals. Transportation costs will be covered through our youth fund. We will be staying Friday night at the Comfort Suites Riverfront in Newport.

Senior High Youth (9th—12th Grades)

We are pleased to share that after many months of interviews and discernment, we have hired Brian Schlise as the Senior High youth leader. We welcome Brian to the staff and pray God's blessing on his ministry with our Senior High students.

Youth Group continues to meet on Sunday evenings. We begin at 5:00 p.m. with worship service with *Eureka Park* and move onto games from 5:50 -6:15. At 6:15, we join for dinner then participate in Bible study and discussion from 6:45 to 7:30. We are asking the youth to bring \$3.00 each week to cover the cost of dinner.

In addition, there is a specific Senior High break out session on Wonderful Wednesdays. If you aren't familiar with Wonderful Wednesdays, everyone from the church (and their friends) are invited to join together at 6:00 for a dinner followed by a short service at 6:45. Then from 7:15 to 8:00, we have Bible studies and discussion for all ages, including for 9th through 12th graders. We hope you will give it a try some Wednesday!

Brian will be working with our high school students to plan activities and mission efforts for 2014. Please watch bulletins for further information and updates.



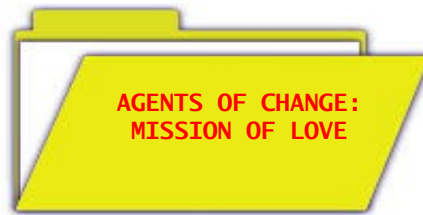
Bright Beginnings Buzz

In January our preschoolers learned about winter and weather. "There will always be cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night" (Genesis 8:22) was our Bible verse. The children had a great month of ice, snow, programs and more! As the children played, created, experienced and explored, they learned about opposites, ice, snow, rain, and all of the wonders of weather in God's world. The children had a lot of fun. In late January, "Remy & Friends", a Christian entertainer, came to visit and entertained them with puppets, plate spinning and more while giving them Christian messages.

In February the children will be learning about God's love as they talk about friends, family, and love and experience "Someone Special" day, Valentines parties and more.

Registration for the 2014-2015 school year for Bright Beginnings Christian Preschool will take place in early February. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please contact Kim Crosen (937-748-2612 or kimfumc@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

Finally, Bright Beginnings is seeking volunteers to teach the older before and after school-care kids skills such as sewing, knitting, woodworking, crocheting, etc. If you would be interested in passing on a life skill such as this, please let Kim know. We are flexible as to whether you work with the children before or after school. Thank you for considering.



Opportunities to be an Agent of Change!

We encourage everyone in our church family to become an “Agent of Change” through the various volunteer opportunities available! Please contact Rebecca in the church office (748-2612) if you are interested in any of these “agent” positions!

- **Fellowship Hosting and Members:** The Fellowship Committee is looking for volunteers to help host on Sundays between the services. Hosting involves making coffee and punch and putting out cookies to share between the services. We are also seeking individuals who may want to help us with just one or two events per year. This would be a minimal commitment but helps us out greatly. Our committee is responsible for food for many events throughout the year such as the Chili Cook-off, Children’s parties, the Church picnic and the Rally Day. Fellowship is a great way to get connected and serve with the members of our wonderful church family. If you are new to the church or a long time member, please consider joining to serve in any small way you can. Please contact Cindy Hunsaker at Cindy.Hunsaker@teradata.com or call 937-903-0848 if you are interested in helping. Thank you
- **Meal Volunteers:** The Loaves and Fishes Meal Ministry provides meals to church members who are recovering from illness, have a new baby, are grieving or face similar life situations. We are in need of some additional volunteers who would be willing to provide a meal on an occasional basis. Please contact Tina Yeaman at tperr@gmail.com or 937-550-9568.
- **Sunday School Teachers:** We are still in need of some additional Sunday School teachers for our Kid Connection class (children ages 4 years to 4th grade). The curriculum is flexible and you won’t need to teach every Sunday. In addition, we are looking for adults and/or older students to “shepherd” the children from class to class and to help with projects. This is a great way to get to know the children and also to see if you may be interested in being a regular leader! Please consider volunteering your time to help with this important ministry. You can contact Kim Crosen if you are willing to help (748-2612 or kimfumc@gmail.com).

Agents of Change Continued

- **Liturgist Volunteers Needed:** We need to expand our supply of Liturgists, especially during the 9:15 worship hour. Please see Rebecca to be added to our Liturgist volunteer pool and to select some Sundays on which to serve.
- **Church Historian:** The Church is in need of a volunteer to serve as Church Historian which involves keeping an organized collection of materials and photos documenting the life of our church. If you like to scrapbook, this is the volunteer opportunity for you!
- **Wonderful Wednesday Kid's Club Volunteers:** In addition to our Wednesday night dinner and discussions, we offer a family worship service and Kid's Club on Wonderful Wednesdays. The children's program is divided by age groups and will focus on Bible verses, life application and fun! Service and mission play a part as well as equipping our children to be faithful disciples of Christ. Anyone interested in this exciting ministry in the new year, please contact Kim Crosen.
- **Cookies and Hosting:** The Fellowship Committee has new sign up sheets available for providing treats for fellowship time between the services in 2014. If you are interested in helping out there is a sign-up sheet on the fellowship table or you can go online at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B054AAAAF2BA46-fellowship/7328927. Just a reminder the treat does not need to be homemade nor does it have to be cookies—we do not discriminate - donuts, muffins, cupcakes, etc. are also welcome. We also appreciate the weekly donations being made to help off-set our expenses.
- **Kroger Community Rewards Program:** If you haven't already, please remember to register our church as your Kroger Plus Community Rewards recipient. You can do so at krogercommunityrewards.com. The church NPO number is 83759. Through this program, the church will earn a quarterly check based on purchases by Kroger Rewards customers. We earned \$150.84 from 18 families this past quarter. There is no cost to you to participate in the program.

Medical Driving Ministry

If you find you need someone to drive you to and from a medical appointment, please remember that our church offers a Medical Driver Ministry. We look forward to providing medical transportation to church members and friends whenever and wherever needed. To schedule a medical driver, please contact Harold Masteller. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer driver for this ministry, please contact Harold.



Donation Opportunities

Hope House Donations

Our Women in Faith group has decided to make Hope House Center for Women and Children in Middletown the focus of their mission efforts in 2014. Hope House is a facility dedicated to helping homeless and drug addicted women and their children. Each month, WIF will collect different items to give to Hope House. There will be a collection barrel in the Narthex. Items to be collected are:

February: New pillows and blankets and twin sheet sets (blankets and sheets can be used if in good condition)

March: Coats (women and children's—all sizes)

April: Bar soap and home cleaning supplies

May: Summer shoes for women and children (all sizes)

June: Detergent

July: Bar and hand soap

August: Home cleaning supplies

September: Winter shoes for women and children (all sizes)

October: New pillows and blankets and twin sheet sets (blankets and sheets can be used if in good condition)

November: Coats (women and children's—all sizes)

December: Toys for kids, hats, mitten and socks



Sock Collection

A Dennis Elementary student and a brother of a Bright Beginnings student is joining forces with the SHOES4SHOELESS organization to collect socks. If you would like to donate a new pair of socks, we have a collection box in the office. We will be collecting until Sunday, February 16! Let's help Jordan out with his effort to contribute.

Uganda Mission Trip

Morgan Hunsaker, a member of our church and nursing student at Otterbein University, is going on a month-long mission trip to Uganda this summer. We are collecting donations to support Morgan's trip and the mission efforts of the group. If you would like to make a donation, it can be dropped off in the church office.



Interfaith Hospitality Network

A GREAT BIG THANKS to all who helped with the Interfaith Hospitality families. Your help for these families in need is greatly appreciated—especially during the holidays!

Snow Removal

As we all know, this has been quite the winter for snow. We would like to thank Jack Eley for all his efforts in keeping our walkways clear. He has done a great job of making it safe for everyone to enter our church. Thanks Jack!

Personal Thank You's

Dear congregation,
Thank you so much for the generous love offering you gave me this Christmas. It is very appreciated. It is a blessing to be in ministry with you and I look forward to all that God will do through First UMC of Springboro in 2014!
- Pastor Suzanne

Dear Church Family:
I wanted to thank everyone for the out pouring of support that I have received. Your cards, prayers and thoughts are a blessing during my treatment and recovery. Thank you.
- Tracy Stull

A very heartfelt thank you to the kind person who left the money for me on Pastor Suzanne's desk. You are an angel to me and I thank you for your thoughtfulness. Thank you!
- Anonymous

Congratulations!

Congratulations to church members Jack and Scott Eley. They have been elected "Super Fans" as part of Springboro High School's Athletic Hall of Fame. Jack and Scott will be recognized during half time at the high school basketball game on February 7.

February Birthdays

- 3- Matthew Fry
- 4- Derek Hott, Elizabeth Eng
- 5- Jessica Miller, Emily Newton,
Charlie Newton, Kyle Smith,
Christopher Thelen
- 7-Taylor Perreira
- 8-Ethan Hansman
- 9- Peggy Smith, William Click,
Roy Cook
- 11-Andrew Click
- 13—Garry Haun
- 14-Jacob Hansman
- 15-Heather Bauman
- 17-Douglas Wilhelm
- 18-Kelsey Smith, Adam Kline,
Lynda Smith
- 24-Justin Chapman, Beverly Haun
- 26-Dudley Fry
- 28-David Pierce Jr., Tony DeRosa,
Paige Veren



If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the church office know so we can add you to our list. Thank you!

February Volunteers

Altar Flowers

- February 2—Jeanne Costales
- February 9—Open
- February 16-Bob & Linda Leese
- February 23—Open

Hostess & Cookies

- February 2— Cornerstone Class
- February 9—WIF Cookie Walk
- February 16—Nancy Siudzinski
- February 23—Julie Bernatz

Celebrating 
An Anniversary This Month

- 14-Ron & Diana Best,
Jim & Kelly Ronyak
- 23-Don & Barbara Files

*"In marriage do thou be wise:
prefer the person before money,
virtue before beauty,
the mind before the body."
~ William Penn*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
60 EAST NORTH STREET
SPRINGBORO, OH 45066

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
POSTAGE PAID
SPRINGBORO, OH 45066
PERMIT NO. 13

Address service requested

Time Dated Material

First United Methodist Church of Springboro

"Keeping First Things First!"

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:33

