



Reynolds United Methodist Church



Reynolds News Wrap

MARCH, 2010

THE MONTH OF MARCH

According to the Georgian calendar, March is the third month of the year. According to the early Roman calendar, it was the first month and was called Martius. The ancient Romans later made January 1 the beginning of the year, and March became the third month on the calendar. March has always had 31 days. Its name honors Mars, the Roman God of war.

The winter ends with March, and in comes Spring. Spring in the northern half of the world begins with March 19, 20, or 21. It's the day when the sun is directly over the equator. March can either feel wintry or springy, with as many blustery, windy days as there are mild, sunny days. In the northern hemisphere, the animals end their hibernation, and many plants come to life again in March. The sap flows in the trees again, and the buds begin to show up. Bears, woodchucks, and chipmunks leave their hibernating spots. People begin to start looking for the first robin for the sign of Spring arrival.

There are no national holidays in March, but there are important state and religious holidays celebrated, some of which are: March 17th– St. Patrick's Day, and the Jewish festival of Purim usually occurs in March. It is held on the day corresponding to the 14th day of Adar on the Hebrew calendar.

There are some superstitions about March. We often hear that "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." This means that the first day of March is often stormy, and the last day is mild and warm. The bloodstone and aquamarine are the birthstones for March. The violet is the flower for the month of March. The season of Lent usually occurs during the month of March. This year Palm Sunday occurs on the last Sunday in the month, March 28th, the day we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Many famous people were born in March:

- Alexander Graham Bell in 1847
- Michelangelo, born in 1475
- Elizabeth Barrett Browning in 1806
- Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr, in 1841
- Johann Strauss in 1804
- Albert Einstein in 1879
- Andrew Jackson in 1767
- James Madison in 1751
- Grover Cleveland in 1837
- Johann Sebastian Bach in 1685
- Robert Frost in 1874

And on March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry, according to tradition, declared "Give me liberty, or give me death!" Daylight Saving Time went into effect in the United States in 1918. .

The people of The United Methodist Church

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Dear Reynolds Members and Friends of the Community,

As we enter 2010, we have an opportunity to step into a greater relationship of God's power than we have before. The Holy Spirit did not come into this world empty-handed. He came with all the power of Heaven at His command. Church, when God called us to go into the world and preach the Gospel, He didn't call us to go empty-handed. (Mk. 16: 15-18)

With that in mind, in times of trouble, or crisis, many people lose their trust in God, asking the question "Is God still with us?" When something happens that we don't understand, we have a decision to make. Are we going to let a setback steal the blessings of God from us? Or are we going to stand firm and declare, "God is still God-NO MATTER what?" Let us read Mark 4:35-41. What made the disciples so fearful? Was it the storm? The wind? Maybe the waves? These things were factors. But those were external things. Fear is not a motivating factor until it gets inside us. When the storm struck, even when Jesus was in the boat, the disciples lost their focus on the Presence of God. They were focused on the external things. For us it is the circumstances of life that we begin to focus on. But we need to remember, Jesus is still here, even in the midst of the storms, crises, of life. I believe when the enemy tries to make us turn loose of our faith, the key to resisting him is to remember that Jesus says, "I am with you always." No matter what happens. The second thing the disciples forgot was that the words spoken by Jesus were stronger than any storm. So often when the storms of life come, we often forget what God has said to us in His Word. God's promises will get us through any storm that life brings to us. Today we may be faced with situations that seem impossible. Our hearts maybe broken. We may have suffered a tragic loss. We maybe facing financial, family, employment, or even addiction problems. We are faced with a decision to make. Will we turn back on what we believe, or will we believe God? Remember, it doesn't matter what the circumstances are, God is still God. His promises are still true today as in ancient days. What happens in our lives and the lives of the Church are up to us. We must choose to speak God's Word. We must release the power of God with our faith. When we speak the Word of faith, it brings deliverance and salvation to our lives. Let us stand with boldness against what ever life brings to us. We have nothing to fear because "God still is"!

Pastor Al

CLUSTER NEWS

The Hub Cluster Pastors and Communicators met on February 23rd at Chana UMC. Announcements by the various churches included:
Steward: Lenten Bible Study Feb. 24th—March 24th 7:00 PM
Chana: Chicken Noodle/Lasagna Dinner— Sat. March 13th 4:30-7:00 pm. Adults- \$8.00 (advance sale—\$7.50) Children 6-12—\$5.00, Children under 5—free. Forgiveness Bible Study beginning March 9th at 6:30 pm for 6 weeks.
Reynolds: Safe Sanctuary training on Feb 27th 9-11am. Background checks free for attendees.
Rochelle: Lenten lunches on Wednesdays at noon. Call by Monday for reservations. The Adults Sunday School Class is having a drive-thru pulled pork dinner from 10:00 am –1:00 pm this Sunday, Feb. 28th. Tickets are \$5.00 each.
Franklin Grove: Women's Bible Studay beginning April 12th at 6:30 pm . This is a Beth Moore study on Esther for 11 weeks. There will be a St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage supper at 6:00 pm with worship service following at 7:00 pm.
Esmond: Maundy Thursday Service—7:00 pm.
Creston: Seder Meal and Maundy Thursday Service for Creston and Steward at Steward.

The Hub Cluster Seder Meal to be held at the Mills & Petrie Building preparations are progressing.

Complete Minutes of the meeting are posted on the church bulletin board.

Next meeting: March 16th at 7:00 pm at Creston UMC.

BRUNCH IN THE WOODS SECOND SUNDAY EACH MONTH

2010

Camp Reynoldswood, 621 Reynoldswood Road, Dixon, IL 61021

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

March 14th
April 11th May 9th

Adult \$10.00, Child –5-10 yrs— \$5.00
Children 4 yrs and younger—Free.

Can you read a book write a letter ...sit and hold someone's hand ... listen or just be there? If so, then you could be a Hospice Volunteer. Hospice of the Rock River Valley has a need for volunteers to work with patients and families. Training will be provided beginning March 9th. To me: Judy



"WE INTERRUPT THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT THE CHURCH BAZAAR, THE LADIES' AUXILIARY, AND THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP TO BRING YOU A MESSAGE FROM OUR SPONSOR."

PRINTER CARTRIDGES RECYCLING:

The PKD program is collecting used printer cartridges and have placed a box in Fellowship Hall for your convenience. This is a fund raiser for the school. Please bring in any that you may have instead of discarding them. Thank you.

*The next church business meetings will be on March 8th :
6:30pm— Worship Committee
7:00pm— Trustees
7:30pm— SPRC
8:00 pm— Church Council*

If anyone would like to furnish flowers for the altar in honor of someone or some special occasion, please notify Ruth Burhenn. (815) 453-7472. Thank you.

Word has been received that Joyce Nicholson, wife of Rev. Kenneth Nicholson, passed away on December 31st, 2008. They served at Reynolds from 1961-1964.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. . . . For where your treasure is, there will you heart be also. Luke 12:31,32,34.

LATEST NEWS!!! BEWARE OF TERRORIST GROUPS WITHIN OUR CHURCH!

Latest news reports just received are that five terrorist cell groups have been operating in many of our churches. They have been identified as: Bin Sleepin, Bin Arguin, Bin Fightin, Bin Complainin, and Bin Missin.

Their leader, Lucifer Bin Workin, trained these groups to destroy the Body of Christ. The plan is to come into the church disguised as Christians and to work within the church to discourage, disrupt, and destroy.

However, there have been reports of a sixth group. A tiny cell known by the name Bin Prayin is actually the only effective counter terrorism force in the church. Unlike the terrorist cells, the Bin Prayin team does not blend in with whoever and whatever comes along.

Bin Prayin does whatever is needed to uplift and encourage the Body of Christ. We have noticed that the Bin Prayin cell group has different characteristics than the others. They have Bin Watchin, Bin Waitin, Bin Fastin, and Bin Longin for their Master, Jesus Christ, to return.

NO CHURCH IS EXEMPT!

(However, you can spot them if you bin lookin and bin goin.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nurture Committee

Chair: Kathy Clark
NO REPORT RECEIVED

Worship Committee:

Chair: Kathy Becker
Meeting held on February 9th— NO REPORT RECEIVED.

Missions Committee

Chair: Nancy Eggers
Organizational meeting held on February 21st. Items discussed were: Overview of Committee Charge and guidelines; Committee Resources; Mission Moments; Previous year's projects and causes served; Rainbow covenant causes defined, and all Local, Regional, National and International projects outside of the Rainbow Covenant we reviewed. Assignments to research several projects were given. The next meeting is to be determined at a later date.

Trustees Committee

Chair: Ed Uphoff
Meeting held on February 8th . NO REPORT RECEIVED.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

Chair: Frances Cappel
Meeting held on February 8th . Pastor Al is taking vacation days on February 17th—21st so he can attend his son's ordination in Oklahoma. Lay Speaker, Ellen Clark, will be filling the pulpet in his absence on February 21st. He will also be taking a summer vacation on August 7th-16th.

Pastor Al told us that the conference has strongly suggested that someone from Reynolds UMC go on a mission trip during 2010.

He also attended a seminar on February 16th at Ashton UMC called a Day on the District with the Bishop. Laity were invited to attend the evening portion of the day. Ash Wednesday service was a Cluster event held on February 17th at Creston UMC. Next meeting: March 8th at 7:30 pm

Youth

Leader: Lisa Headon.
NO REPORT RECEIVED.

Education Committee

Chair— Ronda Brown.
NO REPORT RECEIVED.

Finance Committee

Chair: Vernon Gittleson
How good it has been during February to see our offerings are greatly increased! It makes the Finance Committee feel like we have the support of the whole church to get us out of this financial crisis so we can move on. Freezing most of the line items in the budget was not what the committee wanted to do, but we felt we had no other options to get our spending back in line with our receipts.

Let's all view this as a lesson learned and continue to pull together in order to meet our budget. Thank you to everyone who gives to Reynolds UMC to keep it operating for the Lord! God bless you.

Memorial Committee

Chair: Ruth Burhenn
NO REPORT RECEIVED.

NEXT NEWLETTER ITEM
DUE DATE IS MARCH 22ND

RECENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Pastor Al & Linda

Brittany Gittleson (Hand Surgery repair for a cut tendon)

Marie Ackland- Continued prayer as she undergoes treatments and a Bone marrow biopsy .

Jim Steder (Cancer)

Susan Brown (Note eating and drinking enough)

Roop's niece diagnosed with cancer

Dorothy Curren (Angela Pfeiffer's Grandmother)

Stacy Dethrow

Verle Burhenn for continud treatments and recovery of strength.

Allison Cole

Tracy Cheeseman

Mike Pitzer

Mike Ford (Chemo for brain tumor)

Uphoff's sister-in-law (leg tumor), & their daughter Kris (cancer removed from her nose.

Emily, Meyer's granddaughter (eye surgery to remove substance)

Lyle Headon (cancer surgery)

ALSO:

Men & women in the armed services, those grieving the loss of loved ones, the victims of the Haiti Earthquake, and the unemployed seeking jobs.

SERVING IN March:

Communion Steward : Jenni Winterland

Ushers: Duane Ackland, Jason Pfeiffer, Vernon Gittleson, & Bill Uphoff

Song Leader: Lois Heimbaugh

Greeters: 7th, Bill & Barb Uphoff, 14th & 21st—Jason & Angela Pfeiffer
28th— Chad & Kristy Murphy

Flowers: Ruth Burhenn for Special Altar Flower Arrangements

Church Hostesses: Nancy Gittleson & Audrey Roop

<u>Date</u>	<u>Children's Moment</u>	<u>Nursery</u>
7th	Kathy Clark	Gerri Underhile & Jenni Winterland
14th	Pastor Al	Jane Rueff & Kathy Brown
21st	Cindy Knight	Kristy Murphy & Lexi Headon
28th	Lois Heimbaugh	Jason & Angela Pfeiffer

	<u>Special Music</u>
7th	None
14th	Cindy Knight
21st	Gene Brake
28th	None

The date for the Garage Sale fund raiser for VBS has been changed to April 23rd and 24th and will be held at the Mills & Petrie building in Ashton.

JOYS CELEBRATED:

Uphoff's daughter, Jody, has been offered a full time job at Swedish American Hospital

Lynn Dusing, Dolores Scott's daughter-in-law, has had a 5 inch cerebral aneurysm repaired with no permanent damage to her eyesight or her brain. She is going back to work in 2 weeks driving a city bus in Orlando, Florida!!!

126 Cans of Soup were collected for delivery to the Food Pantry.

Pastor Al and Linda recently attended their son, David's, ordination into the ministry held in Oklahoma.