

## ALL CHURCH NEWS

*Happy  
Valentine's  
Day!*



### Sunday Home Dinners



For those of us who stay around to brave the Michigan winters, here's a chance to gather together and have some fun sharing a Sunday meal with our Arise friends and maybe getting to know some new ones. On two Sundays, February 26 and March 5, several Arise hosts will open their homes for a good old fashioned Methodist potluck. Each host family will choose the time for their dinner. Sign up will be in advance. Watch the Sunday bulletins for specifics on registering to be a host or a guest. Let's chase the chill away with some food, fellowship and fun! Coordinators are Matt and Beth Plachta, (810)-231-7588.

### New Arise Youth Worship Service Begins

Arise Youth now have the fun of experiencing worship designed specifically for them. Pastor Doug and Kevin Griffin work together with a representative from both the middle school and high school youth groups, as well as the Young Adult L.I.F.E. Team to plan this new worship format. The youth's first service was held at the Good News Chapel in the Village of Pinckney on Sunday evening, January 8 and was attended by 14 youth and 8 adults.

Jessica Concannon graciously filled in as speaker and shared some experiences from her recent mission trip to Peru. Praise music was led by Eric Tice and the attendees enjoyed singing and worshipping together. Refreshments followed the service and the youth and adults had a chance to mingle for awhile before heading home.

The next service is planned for Sunday, February 12 at 6 p.m. The location has been changed for this one service to the Community Congregational Church, 125 E. Unadilla St., downtown Pinckney. A talented youth drama group, The Strangely Warmed Players, from the Ann Arbor First United Methodist Church will be participating in this exciting worship experience.

All Pinckney area youth have been invited to

attend this special service. Arise youth from 5th grade through young adults are especially encouraged to bring their friends and make this service a great success. Everyone is welcome to join our youth for these worship services, as well. Come join our youth in worshipping our Lord!



### Thanks!

Dear Arise Church Family,  
This is a short note to express our gratitude to our Church Family for the prayers and support during Wayne's recent illness. We truly feel that you helped guide us

through this with God's help. We have not been associated with a church that has made us feel so warm, welcome and wanted in our experience, so it is difficult to let you all know how much you mean to us. Arise is truly a church where the people are the church and the surroundings, except for summer outdoor worship, are secondary.

Wayne came through the surgery successfully and the doctors are sure they removed the entire tumor. They are so sure that the next follow up is in one year and the next is four years! God is good!

Thank you again for your prayers and friendship,

*Wayne & Mary Ellen Kieb and Family*

**Pastor's Column**



I've been learning that...

"The goal of ministry is to give it away."

– Dr. Michael Slaughter,  
Ginghamsburg UM Church

Mike Slaughter reminds all of us that we serve as part of a living organism, the Body of Christ. In every ministry, we can be more fruitful if we share the ministry with others. When we learn ways of serving God, we can bless others by teaching them, mentoring them, and giving them the ministry. This "hand-off" frees us to serve in other ways, and we expand the ministry of Christ, following the leading of the Holy Spirit.

I like to think of ministry as a treat, like a dish of ice cream. If we really love people, we should share the ice cream with them! Let's give the ministry away!

– Doug McMunn, Pastor



**Are you ready to get recharged?**

If the answer is yes, come join us on a 50-day adventure called, "Untapped

Miracles for Tapped-out Christians." We will have daily devotions and a weekly discussion group. There is a journal (devotional) and a guidebook that costs \$5 each and can be purchased at the ministry center or between services beginning 2/12/06. The discussion group will meet from 9:00-10:00 am on Sundays starting 2/26/06 at Country Elementary. If anyone wants to form a 10:30 am discussion group, please let us know.

Contact Sherry Graham at (734-878-6778) or Pastor Doug.

**COME! BE ENERGIZED!!!**

**The Fifty-Day Spiritual Adventure, February 26 – April 16**

It's back by popular demand. The 50-day spiritual adventure has helped many people open their Bibles and begin or renew their prayer life. It is designed to help us establish good habits as Christian disciples. It prompts you to take the steps of obedience and faith that you really want to take. It is simple and DO-ABLE and yet, if you read the Bible verses and honestly reflect upon them, great growth can happen in your walk with Christ!

ARE YOU TIRED? You need "Spectacular Energy Sources for the Body of Christ." God's power is abundant. The energy of the Holy Spirit is available. We need to get connected. Dr. David Mains calls this 50-Day Spiritual Adventure, "Untapped Miracles for Tapped-Out Christians."

The Spiritual Adventure begins on February 26, but please obtain your journal in early February so you can read the introduction pages and start on time!

Here's how you can participate:

- 1) Attend worship and take notes on the sermons, which will complement the devotional experience each week.
- 2) Use the daily devotional guide, called a journal (It is simple to use, and DO-ABLE... (a one-page-per-day devotional guide to help you experience measurable and sustainable spiritual growth!) The cost is \$5 for the journal.
- 3) Read the companion book, called the guidebook. Read one chapter per week during the adventure. The title for this resource is When the Troops Are Tired, by Dr. David Mains. It costs \$5.
- 4) Join a Discussion Group (see article by Sherry Graham) during the Adventure.

**Thanks!** continued from front page—

Arise friends,  
Praise God for helping me through this cancer! Thank you Lord, and a big thanks to the entire congregation for their prayer and support through this!

*Jen Wagner*

# BIBLE STUDY

## Disciple Bible Study is Back

Some of you may remember the Disciple Bible Study series Arise sponsored quite a few years ago now. It was a 32 week commitment and we read through 80% of the Bible. That was a huge process and it was awesome for those of us who were able to put aside the time at that point in our lives. Well, Disciple Bible Study authors have revamped their material. They now have available "Disciple Short-term Bible Studies." This is an 8 week study time frame, but with the same excellent presentation by Christian authors and scholars.

You are invited to be a part of this new adventure as a disciple of Christ. "Invitation to the New Testament" will begin February 7, 2006. We will meet every Tuesday for 8 weeks consecutively. The place is yet to be determined. The time frame is 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

I am so excited to get into a Disciple Bible Study again. I learned so much about God's Word and built strong friendships for life through the time we spent together. If you are looking to grow in knowledge of the New Testament and love of Christ and experience a small group, please call me at 734-878-3851.

—Marianne McMunn, Disciple Bible Study facilitator

## T.G.I.F Sisters

Thank God It's Friday! We are a group of women of various ages, backgrounds, and experiences who come together each week to study the Bible and learn from each other. As our name suggests, this group has been a blessing to all! The meeting begins with lighting a candle, calling and celebrating the Holy Spirit in our presence. Then a prayer is said which is essential to the start and ending of our sacred time.

We started the TGIF LIFE team in the summer of 2004, and have since completed two studies focused on finding

balance in our lives as we serve others and follow Jesus. The first, Finding Balance: Loving God With Heart and Soul, Mind and Strength, utilized the stories of various women in the New Testament. We had a video and a workbook which aided us in reflecting about women who have gone down a similar path. The second study was called, The Christ Centered Woman: Finding Balance in a World of Extremes." The next study we are beginning is Momentum for Life.

Sharing and listening have been a focus of this study group, and we have benefited greatly from authentic understanding of our unique life pathways, as well as the common crossroads that unite us. We know that living a Christ-centered life is a lifelong journey! Come share it with us! We meet every two weeks on Fridays at 10:00am. You are welcome every time and anytime; please remember, once a sister –always a sister!!

—Sherry Graham, TGIF Team Leader

## Land & Building Fund Update

2005 was a banner year for our Land & Building Fund. We started the year with a balance of \$53,254 and received \$137,099 in income. Two large gifts totaling more than \$60,000 toward the end of the year were a great blessing and a tangible demonstration of commitment to the building program.

Our mortgage payments in 2005 totaled \$42,019. We also paid \$43,040 in architect, civil engineering, Putnam Township site plan approval and Livingston County permit expenses. We have completed all the preparatory work and now have a building permit!

—Matt Plachta, Finance Committee Chair



### Wanted: Holy Communion Steward

Would you prepare the bread and cup for Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month? Would you like to serve in this way sometimes? Please contact me if you would like to help.

— Rev. McMunn



### Souper Bowl of Caring

On February 5th, our youth will be taking donations to help feed the hungry. We ask that you place \$1 in our soup pots as you leave Worship service. All funds will go to the Livingston County Food Bank. Youth all over the United States will be taking part in the Souper Bowl to help feed the hungry, and every dollar helps. For more information go to [www.souperbowl.org](http://www.souperbowl.org).

### Cancelled Postage Stamps Needed

The Salvation Army in Ann Arbor hosts an after school stamp collecting group for at-risk youth. They are in need of cancelled postage stamps for this project. Adult volunteers donate their time to work with the youth on this activity. Due to metered mailings, postage stamps aren't as commonly used as they used to be.

To help with this project, here's all you have to do:

- Soak the stamp off the envelope, OR
- Tear the corner of the envelope off with the stamp on it, OR
- Simply take the whole envelope, AND
- Save them in a small container close to where you sort your mail.
- Bring them to church and place in the designated box on the information table.
- They will be collected and given to the after school program on an ongoing basis.

You or your kids may look at stamps with a little more interest once you start to help with this collection. Both the kids and the adults in this program really enjoy this activity. It doesn't cost a thing, but a moment of your time. Thanks for your help!

### National Donor Day

February 14 is not only Valentine's Day; it is National Donor Day, designated for education about organ and tissue donation. Over 90,000 people are waiting for the gift of life. Each day, about 74 people receive an organ transplant. However, 17 people die each day waiting for transplants that can't take place because of the shortage of donated organs. Each month, approximately 300 new transplant candidates are added to the waiting list.



Every person, regardless of age or physical condition can be potential organ and tissue donors. The decision to be a donor does not affect the care you receive at the time of an injury or illness and there is no cost to the donor or the donor's family.

To make your wish known to be a donor:

- Declare your wish on your driver's license.
- Join the donor registry if your state has one.
- Include donation in your advance directives, will, and living will.
- Tell your family. They can be your advocate should you become a donor candidate.
- Tell your physician, faith leader, and friends.
- Complete a donor card and carry it in your wallet.

To learn more about organ and tissue donation, visit [www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov). Content adapted from the Donate Life website above.

—Submitted by the Arise Health Ministry Team

### Launch Pad

[www.DanLtoons.com](http://www.DanLtoons.com)



Please scroll with me in your computer Bibles to Luke, chapter 4...



## PEOPLE HIGHLIGHTS

*This is the first in a series of interviews with members of the Arise family.*

### Meet Kevin Griffin!



Kevin Griffin joined Arise as Music Minister in September, 2005, relocating from Peru with his wife of 16 years, Diane. Having spent 2 \_ years in Peru and another 3 years in Costa Rica, Kevin and Diane did cross-cultural work as missionaries. (Their experiences will be covered in more detail in a future issue.) If you haven't yet met Diane, it's because she has a full time position at the

Howell United Methodist Church, serving as Christian Education Director.

Diane and Kevin met at the Asbury Theological Seminary in Kentucky (the same one Doug attended, although they did not know each other then). After graduating from seminary; they began to pursue their missionary callings.

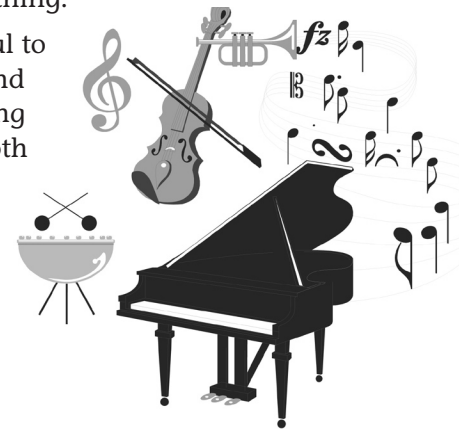
As far as Kevin goes, you've no doubt enjoyed his multiple talents, which include organizing, singing, acting and playing musical instruments at Arise. "My strengths are organizational planning and administration," he said, noting that these were the needs of Arise as expressed during the interviewing process. Kevin is using those strengths to enhance the overall quality, logistics and focus of the music ministry in a number of ways. First, there is considerable planning required for all praise group participants, to get together regularly and practice for services. Second, an effort has begun to link music more directly to worship themes. This, of course, requires increased communications and attention in all areas.

Kevin sees the music ministry as a multi-faceted, diverse process. During Christmas, the adult choir and wind ensemble performed, and he is eagerly inviting musicians, singers and actors/actresses for future programs. "I see myself as the music director and the people as ministers." If you are interested in exploring opportunities to use your musical and acting gifts, please let him know!

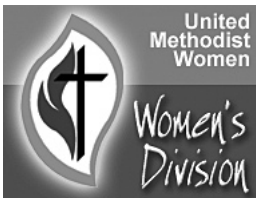
One of the lessons that Kevin brings from his experience in Peru is the importance of being able to present Jesus Christ to people in different ways. In this way, everyone can receive something relevant to them. He sees that as a process of building the ability to focus on Jesus, and recognize within ourselves the peripheral things that are not directly relevant to the message...one might say separating form from meaning. In this way, both can deepen our Christian experience. This includes inviting many ideas and approaches to the musical ministry at Arise.

"I hope to get more groups involved in regular participation, so we don't get rusty. Special music should not just be a Christmas thing.

Kevin...we're grateful to have you with us, and pleased to be enjoying your many gifts...both seen and unseen!



### United Methodist Women's Conference – May 4-7, Anaheim, CA



**Announcing the United Methodist Women's Conference... Rise! Shine! Glorify God!**

The Assembly is a quadrennial program meeting of United Methodist Women attended by thousands of women. This is a time for study and worship and great fellowship, as Women come together from all over the world.

Registration applications are online. The website is: <http://www.umwassembly.org>. If you register online, please email me that you have done so. Events will include: breakfast with international guests and national ministry guests, worship training mission education, Christian Comedy, and talent shows. Walk for mission is to promote health and raise money for missions (2 laps around the Anaheim).

*Diana Spitnale Miller  
Detroit Conference UMW President  
dmiller@centurytel.net*

**Children’s Ministry Team**

Our Children’s Ministry Team is in need of 4 teachers at the following times: 1st –2nd grades (2nd & 4th Sunday/month); 5th –6th grades (1st & 3rd Sunday/month). Aides are always welcome. Also, are you interested in giving the Children’s message on the 2nd Sunday/month? Please contact me if you or someone whom you know is interested at: 734-649-7967 or judylmiller2001@charter.net

—Judy Miller, Children’s Ministry Team Coach

**Children’s Ministry Monthly Schedule**

**1st Sunday:**

- Pre-K Sherry Graham
- 1-2 Open
- 3-4 Judy Miller
- 5-6 Open

**2nd Sunday:**

- Pre-K Barbara Stafford
- 1-2nd Open
- 3-4th Brenda Whalen
- 5-6th Evva Funk & Dave McBrien

**3rd Sunday:**

- Pre-K Jan Richards
- 1-2nd Anita Pagino
- 3-4th Judy Miller
- 5-6th Evva Funk & Dave McBrien

**4th Sunday:**

- Pre-K Jenn Wagner or substitute
- 1-2nd Marsha McMunn & Barb Haines
- 3-4th Judy Miller
- 5-6th Evva Funk & Dave McBrien

**5th Sunday:**

When there is one, all classes will see a film.



**Hospitality Team**

If you can help provide refreshments between worship services, please sign up on the board located near the food table on Sundays. Fellowship time begins at 9:45 a.m. Duties include arriving at 9:15 a.m. to make coffee and Kool-Aid and set up the table. Supplies are located on the hospitality cart. Volunteers are also responsible for clean up and putting away supplies after the refreshment period. Recommended refreshments are 4-6 dozen cookies made without nuts or peanut butter, as there are children in the school with peanut allergies. People are welcome to team up and work together for a Sunday, if preferred. For questions, contact Dorothy Winslow, Hospitality Team Coach at (810) 231-2683.

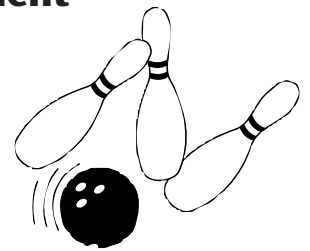


**Musicians Wanted**

Drummer, bass guitarist & keyboardist as backup for both services. Please contact Kevin Griffin at the church office or kedigriffin@msn.com.

**Bowling Announcement & Invitation**

*Attn: Arise Bowlers!*  
*On February 5th there is a time change.*



We will start at 1:30 pm, followed by a Super Bowl party at the Morphew’s. Food will be served at 5 pm; kickoff at 6. The entire church is welcome for the party. Please bring a dish to pass.

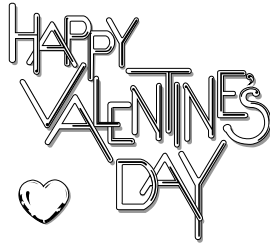
Jim & Cindy Morphew  
3058 Dana Point. Dr., Pinckney  
(734) 878-1507



You must be the change you wish to see in the world.  
—Mohandas Gandhi

# FEBRUARY 2006 CALENDAR

## WEEKLY EVENTS



“You can give without loving. But you cannot love without giving.”

- Amy Carmichael, missionary to India

### Sunday \_\_\_\_\_

7:30 a.m.  
Move into school

8:25 a.m.  
Spirited Traditional  
Worship

9:45 a.m.  
Friendship Coffee  
10:30 a.m.  
Praise Celebration

### Monday \_\_\_\_\_

7:00 p.m.  
Men's Huddle

### Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_

7 p.m.  
Disciple Bible Study

### Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_

6:30 p.m.  
Sr. High Youth  
7:00 p.m.  
Adult Bible Study

### Thursday \_\_\_\_\_

10:00 a.m.  
Worship Design

### Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

8:30 p.m.  
Young Adult LIFE Team

### Coming Events

#### February 4

Leadership Training Day  
(open to all)

#### February 5

Superbowl \$1 Day

#### February 12

Youth Worship Night with  
“The Strangely Warmed  
Players”

#### February 14

Valentine's Day

#### February 26

The 50-day Spiritual  
Adventure is back!

March-April Wednesday  
Lenten Breakfasts, 10 a.m.

#### March 5

Sunday Home Dinners

#### March 9

Youth Worship Night

#### March 19

Potato Feast

#### April 16

Easter

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>January 29</b> Sr. High Breakfast, 7:45 a.m. Sr. High Worship 8:10 a.m. Lock-in ends 8:30 a.m.	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>February 1</b> Bible Study at Fike's 7 p.m.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> TGIF Sisters 10 a.m.	<b>4</b> District Training 9 a.m.
<b>5</b> Communion Souperbowl of Caring Super Bowl Party at Morphew's 5 p.m.	<b>6</b> Worship Design 6:30 p.m.	<b>7</b> Church Council 7 pm Disciple Bible Study 7 p.m.	<b>8</b> Bible Study at Fike's 7 p.m.	<b>9</b> DAD's 6 a.m.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Visioning Session 9 a.m. – noon
<b>12</b> Scout Sunday Friendship Brunch 12:15 p.m.	<b>13</b> Threads of Faith 7 p.m.	<b>14</b> Trustees (T) 7 p.m. Disciple Bible Study 7 p.m. Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> Bible Study at Fike's 7 p.m.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> TGIF Sisters 10 a.m.	<b>18</b> Momentum 8 a.m.
<b>19</b> Discovery Course luncheon	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Disciple Bible Study 7 p.m.	<b>22</b> Bible Study at Fike's 7 p.m.	<b>23</b> DAD's 6 a.m.	<b>24</b> Homeless Outreach	<b>25</b> Homeless Outreach Momentum 8 a.m. Middle School Youth 3 p.m.
<b>26</b> Day One— 50 Day Spiritual Adventure Sunday Home Dinners	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Disciple Bible Study 7 p.m.	<b>March 1</b> Ash Wednesday UCC dinner 6:30 p.m. UCC worship 7 p.m. Bible Study at Fike's 7 p.m.			

# Arise

A United Methodist Church

Arise Ministry Center  
11211 Dexter-Pinckney Rd.  
Pinckney, MI 48169

Ministers: Every member of the Church  
Pastor: Douglas J. McMunn  
Music Minister: Kevin Griffin  
Administrative Assistant: Dave Russell  
www.arisechurch.org  
734 878-1928 Fax: 734 878-2748

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If you wish to be removed from our newsletter mailing list, please return this mailing panel to us. Thank you.

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## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



E.J. & Kim Sherry – FEB. 3



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



1	4	7
Tony Whalen (15)	Madeline Dice (9)	Noah Sherry (8)
9	12	17
Rick Beaudin	Natalie Sherry	Rob Dice (18)
	Anjalie Sherry (2)	Ian Donovan (9)
19	23	25
Laurie Russell	Jenell Barnard	Gary Miller (60)
Myles Wagner (5)		

### Arise Newsletter Team

Editorial:  
April Flanagan,  
Beth Plachta, Jen Wagner

Layout/Design:  
Barbara Wood

Distribution:  
Dorothy Winslow & team

*Thanks to all who contribute;  
please contact us with your  
feedback & suggestions!*

We would like to share in your special celebrations and we apologize for missing any special dates. If you would like to have your special dates included in future newsletters, please give the information, in writing, to Dorothy Winslow. Thank you!

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