

Arise

"Discovering Together What Faith Can Do"

-A United Methodist Church

All Church News

Home-based Friendship Meals

Do you wish you could spend more time with your Arise friends or have a chance to get to know new members a little better? Maybe you're new to Arise and would like the opportunity to meet people. Coming in February and March, a few Sunday afternoons and evenings will be designated for this purpose. A chance to enjoy the company of your church friends, share a potluck meal and relax in the home of your Arise host. Check the bulletin and February newsletter for additional details.



Thank You for Your Outpouring of Love!

Thank you for caring about others and putting the love of Christ into practical deeds of kindness! During November and December you completed a BIG year of outreach through Arise Church. We won't list all the projects here, but thank you for responding so generously. In the end of December you filled some 50 gift tags in operation Angel Tree and during the parsonage open house you gave a nice offering of food to the food bank. Thanks for being love in action.

-Evva Funk, for the Missions Committee

Newsletter Changes

Greetings, Arise members and friends!

With much encouragement, support and prayer, I have chosen to step forward to edit the Arise Newsletter. Of course, no one can replace Judy Miller, whose wonderful efforts have kept everyone in touch and informed over the past five years. THANK YOU, Judy! We have all enjoyed the fruits of your labor. Know that you have been appreciated in this role, as you will continue to be for all of the gifts and responsibilities you share at Arise!

It is my hope to coordinate future issues as a team, with those who have expressed interest in contributing. We will, of course, continue the regular features, and welcome new ideas, too! I am currently working with Jen Wagner and Beth Plachta. In addition, Dorothy and her team will continue to copy, collate and mail. Thanks, Dorothy! If you are interested in joining us or offering suggestions, please drop me a note at aprilflanagan@cs.com, or call me at (810) 231-3875. Also, please pray for our continuing communications. As Doug says, we are all ministers.



Pastors's Column:

I'm learning that people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

"Momentum for Life"

How do YOU keep going when the going gets tough? Join us in a study of a new book called, "Momentum for Life: Sustaining Personal Health, Integrity, and Strategic Focus as a Leader." This study is open to all adults and youth age 16+. We have two meeting options.

Author Mike Slaughter knows this topic from personal experience. He lived the first half of his life out of balance and had a heart attack at age 50. He was the successful pastor of Ginghamburg United Methodist Church, near Dayton, Ohio, but he neglected the habits that sustain a leader's life over the long haul. In five key areas Mike made important changes in his life for the second half: Devotion to God, Learning, Key Relationships, Visioning, and Eating & Exercise.

If you and I are wise we will order our lives for long term balance and health. God wants to bless us spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Join us in January-February for a study of "Momentum for Life."

"Momentum for Life" will meet on two Saturdays per month, at 8:00 a.m., at the parsonage, led by me: January 21, 28; February 18, 25. Call me at 734-878-1928.

"DADS" will meet on two Thursdays per month, at 6:00 a.m., at the home of Todd Hillaker, just off Dexter-Pinckney Road, between Pinckney and Dexter: January 12, 26; February 9, 23. Call Steve Bollinger, 517-545-9153.

Doug McMunn, pastor

P.S. Think Summer Camp: www.umccamps.com.

Re-Visioning Arise Church

On Saturday, November 12, we gathered in a beautiful lakeside setting to begin a visioning process for Arise Church. Twelve persons participated, led by April Flanagan, one of our members who has professional expertise in leadership and visioning. We all agreed that the morning was a good start for a process we do want to continue. We reported to the Arise Church Conference on November 20 and plan to seek congregation-wide input and continue the process on January 14 and February 11.

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low by thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.

Are You Vitally Connected?

Join a LIFE Team in January. New opportunities will be announced during worship in December. LIFE means Living in Faith Everyday! Our small groups help people grow in faith, enjoy Christian friendship, and serve God together. Examples include "TGIF Sisters," "Adult Bible Study," "Sr. High LIFE Team," and others. If you need help finding a LIFE Team that's right for you, please contact our LIFE Team Developer, Sherry Graham, 734-878-6778.



Threads of Faith

Threads of Faith had a very fun and productive year in 2005, making prayer shawls for the sick, school bags for Liberian children, baby quilts for new Arise babies and Christmas stockings and mittens for the U of M Cancer Center. We have welcomed four new members to our group of “needlers”—Barbara Wood, Donna Terhune and Carolyn and Cindy Stafford.



Each of the Hillaker children made a school bag for us this summer, which we really appreciate! If you knit, crochet or sew and would like patterns for any of our projects, we would be happy to supply them, plus the materials needed to make them.

Threads of Faith is open to anyone interested in the needle arts or those who are simply looking for a L.I.F.E. team to be part of. We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 p.m.. Contact Beth Plachta, (810) 231-7588 for more information.

Membership Class

Would you like to learn more about Christian faith and Arise United Methodist Church? Register for the Discovery Course by contacting our Membership Secretary, Dorothy Winslow, 810-231-2683. Classes start in February. Schedule is based on availability of the majority in the class.

Sr. High Lock-In January 28

Arise Church has reserved The Family Fitness Factory, the athletic club located on Hamburg Road. We are inviting area youth as an outreach and a fundraiser for the Arise Building Fund. We need chaperones who may take shifts. We need help to provide a breakfast for the youth at Country Elementary at 7:45 a.m. Contact Brenda Whalen or Cheryl Bollinger.

Arise Bottle Drive, “We Can Build a Church.” through February 12.

Please save your returnable bottles and cans and support the effort of our Sr. High LIFE Team to benefit the Arise Building Fund. You can bring your bottles and cans to Country Elementary on January 8 or February 12, or bring them to the Arise Ministry Center at any time and leave them in the trash cans in front of the church office. Thank you!

Arise Building Committee News as presented by Brad Topp, chairperson, and Mark Wood, Construction Superintendent, December 18, 2005.

Current Building Committee: Brad Topp, Sally Guyon, Jerry Dawson, Kevin Griffin, Matt Plachta, Norma Topp, Mark Wood

Volunteer Committee: Ron & Gayle Fike– coordinate volunteer labor

Networking Committee: Kevin Griffin, April Flanagan, Rich Guyon, Merilee Zane, Doug McMunn– network with individuals, groups, or churches to garner support for our project in the form of prayer, financial support, volunteer labor, donated goods, or other support.

In December we obtained a Building Permit! This took longer than expected, but the project is now approved by the Church, Township, and County. We are ready to get started!

Editor’s note: With special gifts received at year end, we now have over \$89,000 available for physical site work and actual construction.



Free Parenting & Adoption Workshops at U of M

“Understanding Your Child’s Temperament– Born to be Wild or Mild”
Wednesday, January 18 at 7pm - Eileen Bond, M.S.W. “Living in the
Adoption Circle,” W, February 8 at 7pm - Elinor Rosenberg, M.S.W.

Workshops from Samaritan Counseling:

Feb. 4 Marriage Prep

Feb. 6 Divorce Recovery

Feb. 25 Role Play—to develop interpersonal skills. Gain insight into
yourself, improve relationships, learn to handle anger, fear, and hurt
through the Blee method of scenario role playing.

Info for all at www.samaritan.cc or 734-677-0609



The Michigan Christian Advocate is our monthly United Methodist magazine. They are offering us extra copies for the next three months at no charge as a trial group subscription. Please check out our magazine! During February, March, and April, contact Evva Funk, 734-878-5501, if you would like to purchase a subscription after the free trial period. Cost is \$15/year—or \$12 if enough people subscribe.

January is Glaucoma Awareness Month

Glaucoma is an eye disease that causes loss of sight by damaging a part of the eye called the optic nerve. This nerve sends information from your eyes to your brain. When glaucoma damages your optic nerve, you begin to lose patches of vision, usually side (peripheral) vision. Over time, glaucoma may also damage straight ahead (central) vision. You may not notice a loss of side vision until you have lost a great deal of your sight. When checking for glaucoma, eye doctors usually look for damage to the optic nerve and any loss of peripheral vision. They may also check your eye pressure.

Glaucoma is often called “the sneak thief of sight”. That’s because people usually do not notice any signs of the disease until they have already lost significant vision. Once lost, vision can’t be restored. These risks factors may increase your chance of having glaucoma:

- Age – The older you are, the greater your risk.
- Race - African-Americans have glaucoma four to five times more often than others and tend to develop it at an earlier age.
- Family history – If you have a parent, brother or sister with glaucoma, you are more likely to develop glaucoma, too. If you have glaucoma, your family members should get complete eye exams.
- Medical history – Diabetes, previous eye injuries, eye surgery or long-term steroid use can increase your risk of glaucoma.

Anyone can get glaucoma. It affects one in 200 people age 50 and younger. The rate increases to one in 10 over the age of 80. Glaucoma can usually be treated and controlled using medications, surgery or a combination of these treatments. Eye drops are typically the first step in treatment, but laser surgery may be just as effective as a first choice. Making an appointment to get your eyes examined is a good way to care for your eyes. It may help prevent unnecessary loss of your vision.

Adapted from the Glaucoma Learning Center website at www.preventblindness.org.

Submitted by the Arise Health Ministry Team

Recent Debate on Homosexuality

Our society and its churches continue to debate over this topic. The people of The United Methodist Church have diverse opinions. Late last year an issue came to the Judicial Council, the church's supreme court. A pastor refused membership to a man because the man is homosexual. This created controversy. The Judicial Council upheld the pastor's authority to refuse membership. This created a second controversy. The Council of Bishops functions like the executive branch of our church. They unanimously approved a letter to our UM Churches, urging our churches to welcome all people.

This is not a simple subject. I would like to open a forum at Arise in which we can study important scriptures cited by both sides in this debate, discuss diverse perspectives, and grow in understanding. Our church can be a role model of honest theological conversation. Theology is "faith seeking understanding." Please let me know in January if you would like to be in such a study group later in 2006.

- Doug McMunn, pastor

A Pastoral Letter to the People of The United Methodist Church from The Council of Bishops, November 2, 2005

By grace you have been saved through faith.—
Ephesians 2:8

Grace to you from Jesus Christ who calls his church to welcome all people into the community of faith as it proclaims the Gospel.

The Judicial Council, our denomination's highest judicial authority, recently issued a decision regarding a pastor's refusing a gay man's request for membership in the church. In the case, this man was invited to join the choir at the United Methodist Church in the community. As he became more active in the choir and the church, he asked to transfer his membership from another denomination to The United Methodist Church. Because he is a practicing homosexual, the pastor refused to receive him into church

membership. The Judicial Council upheld the pastor's refusal of membership.

While pastors have the responsibility to discern readiness for membership, homosexuality is not a barrier. With the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church we affirm:

"That God's grace is available to all, and we will seek to live together in Christian community. We implore families and churches not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends. We commit ourselves to be in ministry for and with all persons" (Paragraph 161g, 2004 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church).

We also affirm our Wesleyan practice that pastors are accountable to the bishop, superintendent, and the clergy on matters of ministry and membership.

The United Methodist Church is committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ with all people. We, the bishops of the church, affirm that the General Conference has clearly spoken through the denomination's Constitution on inclusiveness and justice for all as it relates to church membership:

"The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking the vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection" (Article IV, Constitution of The United Methodist Church).

We believe the ministry of the local church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is to help people accept and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We call upon all United Methodist pastors and laity to make every congregation a community of hospitality.

January Sunday Servants



January Usher at 9am: Ron Fike

<u>Sunday Role</u>	<u>Coach Or Captain</u>	<u>I January 1</u>	<u>II January 8</u>	<u>III January 15</u>	<u>IV January 22</u>	<u>V January 29</u>
Tech Team Audio-Video	Kevin Griffin 734-878-1928		Greg Stafford- Steve Bolli.	Jason Janovits Allen Hillaker	Kevin Germain Micah Woods	Duane Haines Kevin Germain
Counters	Gail Osborne 810-231-3949	Lisa Tuveson Brad Topp	Matt Plachta Gail Osborne	Laurie Watson Gail Osborne	Matt Plachta Lisa Tuveson	Brad Topp Lisa Tuveson
Hospitality Table	Dorothy Winslow 810-231-2683					
Liturgist 9 AM Worship	Joyce Barnard 734-878-4139					
Moving Team	Jerry Dawson 313-477-5667	Alex Saenzdi- Viteri	Jerry Dawson	Lance Korzilius	Jim Gannon	Jerry Dawson
Usher 10:30 AM	Norma Topp 810-231-4979	Norma Topp	Lance Korzilius	Don Fuller	Mary Read	Norma Topp

If no teacher listed for that day, children will remain in Worship

Children's
Ministry Team Judy Miller
810-231-4456



Preschool to K
1st to 2nd
3rd to 4th
5th to 6th

Barbara Stafford
Anita Pagano
Brenda Whalen
Evva Funk

Jan Richards
Vicki Dawson
Judy Miller
Evva Funk



Thank you to all who serve in these ministries. **If you must be absent, please find** a sub and notify the captain or coach. Coaches and captains, **please notify** the Ministry center of your schedule by the 10th of each month.



2006 is the Tenth Anniversary Year of Arise United Methodist Church. Sunday Worship celebrations began on September 29, 1996.



January 2006

"I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low by thee." -from John Wesley Renewal of Covenant Service

WEEKLY EVENTS	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday: 7:30am Move into School 8:25am Tech Team Prayer 9 am Spirited Traditional Worship 10 am Friendship Coffee 10:30 am Praise Celebration	1 Worship @10:30am only Covenant Renewal	2	3	4 Pinckney Schools resume	5	6 TGIF Sisters at Wagner's 10 a	7
Monday: 7 pm Men's Huddle	8 Leader Dedication Youth Worship Nite 6pm-7:30pm	9 Threads of Faith 7:00 pm	10	11	12 6am DADS @ Hillakers PYRAT, 6pm @ PHS	13 Newsletter deadline	14 Arise Visioning 9 am-12 (coffee, 8:45am)
Tuesday: Wednesday: 6:30 pm Sr High Youth 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study	15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17	18	19	20 TGIF Sisters @ Wagners 10 a	21 8 am "Momentum for Life" @ parsonage
Thursday: 10am Worship Design Please note the dates on the calendar were taken out of the Red Book. Please remember to make changes as needed, so we can print the correct dates.	22 Christian Unity Sunday	23	24 Collate Newsletter 10 am	25 Trustees 7 pm	26	27	28 8am Momentum Arise Youth Lockin at FFF
Coming Events Feb 4 Leadership Training Day (for you!) Feb. 5 Souperbowl \$1 Day Feb. 12 Youth Worship Night with "The Strangely Warmed Players" Feb. 14 Feb. 26 The 50-Day Spiritual Adventure is Back!	29 7:45 am breakfast 8am Youth Worship 8:30am youth depart	30	31	Feb. 1	Feb. 2	Feb 3 	Feb. 4

The Arise Newsletter is published monthly by

Arise

- A United Methodist Church

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No 29
Pinckney MI 48169

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
On the Web: www.arisechurch.org
Ph: (734) 878-1928 Fax: (734) 878-2748

To every person in the home of

Return Service Requested



“Discovering Together What Faith Can Do!”

If you wish to be removed from our newsletter mailing list, please return the above portion to us. Thank you.

Birthdays for January

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Wesley Austin Richards (3)</i> | 6 | <i>Judy Miller</i> |
| 12 | <i>Norma Topp</i> | 22 | <i>Jerry Dawson</i> |
| 24 | <i>Jewell Smith</i> | 25 | <i>Jeremy Bartel (6)</i> |
| 26 | <i>E.J. Sherry</i> | 26 | <i>Gene Smith (75)</i> |
| 27 | <i>Evva Funk</i> | | |



Anniversaries for January

- 5 *Vlad & Norine Bibicoff*



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 publications, please write them down on paper and give them to Dorothy Winslow.