

MONTHLY BELFRY



Little Falls United Methodist Church, 139 Main Street, Little Falls, NJ 07424

IN THIS ISSUE

- **THE PASTOR'S PEN**
- **PACK WELL**
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS**
FEB 1st, 2 & 7:30PM

DON'T FORGET

- CUMAC LUNCHEON/AUCTION
- SOUP FUNDRAISER
- SAT AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES
- FISH & CHIPS DINNER

ST. VALENTINE

Every February 14th, we celebrate the loved ones in our lives with cards, flowers and chocolate. But Valentine's Day has another meaning that's been lost. First declared a holiday by King Henry VIII of England in 1537, it commemorates the beheading of St. Valentine on February 14, 270 A.D. His crime? Performing wedding ceremonies after Roman Emperor Claudius II had outlawed marriage. Valentine was martyred for faithfully doing the work God had given him. Although it's good to celebrate love and marriage, let's also remember the courage of a man who gave his life following his convictions.

FEBRUARY

- 1—2 & 7:30pm Adult Bible Study
- 2—6:15pm Handchimes
- 3—7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 4—10am Prayer Circle
- 5—10am Worship
- 5—11am Superbowl Chili & Sub Fundraiser
- 7—7pm Able Table Cooking Class
- 8—2 & 7:30pm Adult Bible Study
- 9—10am Able Table Cooking Class
- 9—6:15pm Handchimes
- 9—10am Able Table Cooking Class
- 9—7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 10—Prayer Circle
- 11—11:30am CUMAC Luncheon
- 11—2pm Sat Afternoon at the Movie
- 13—7pm Trustees Meeting
- 13—5:30pm Ruth Lee Meeting
- 14—7pm Able Table Cooking Class
- 14—7:30pm Finance Meeting
- 15—12:15pm Ash Wednesday Noontday Service, (Chapel)
- 15—2 & 7:30pm Adult Bible Study
- 16—10am Able Table Cooking Class
- 17—10am Prayer Circle
- 19—10am Baptism Sunday
- 19—Soup of the Month Fundraiser
- 20—**President's Day (Office Closed)**
- 21—7pm Able Table Cooking Class
- 22—No Bible Study due to Ash Wed Service
- 22—7pm Ash Wednesday Evening Service (Sanctuary)
- 23—6:15pm Handchimes
- 23—10am Able Table Cooking Class
- 23—7:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 24—10am Prayer Circle
- 26—10am Worship
- 28—7pm Able Table Cooking Class
- 28—7:30pm Ad Council Meeting
- 29—2 & 7:30pm Adult Bible Study

February

February

February

February



PACK WELL

During Lent, as we focus on Christ's journey to the cross, let's also examine the journey of our lives. The first task when leaving on any adventure is packing. What have

you placed in your bag? Are you weighed down with temptations, self-doubt, money worries, relationship troubles? Have you overlooked any important items? Maybe your bag feels too empty for the challenges ahead. Remember to pack mercy, grace and forgiveness. Thanks to Easter, we know that our journey in Christ continues, even when the road becomes difficult. So as you prepare for Lent, carry with you the hope made possible by Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf.

FEBRUARY FOOD COLLECTION:



CUMAC
Feeding People & Changing Lives

Let's help CUMAC!

Hot Cereal & all items are needed!

CUMAC'S 15TH ANNUAL HAVE-A-HEART LUNCHEON & AUCTION

Sat, Feb 11th 2012

11:30 am to 3:30 pm

(Snow date Feb 18 2012, same time)

At the Korean Community Church of NJ:

147 Tenafly Rd. Englewood, NJ

(See Frank Crouch for directions)

Donation: \$18 (advance reservation w/payment by Mon Feb 6th, 2012. (See Frank Crouch for payment) \$25 at the door. Come join us for a catered lunch (sandwiches & pasta), and then bid on exciting items ranging from gift baskets to getaways. In addition to the auction items,-

there will be a "cash & carry" section including brand new clothing, house hold items and treats for sale. As always, all proceeds from the event will help CUMAC continue to feed people in need, so please come prepared to have fun, bid and shop! (Cash, personal check, MasterCard and Visa will be accepted).



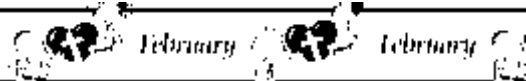
UMW Members Its Pledge Time What is a pledge?

A pledge is an amount of money you promise to give to our UMW in a given year.

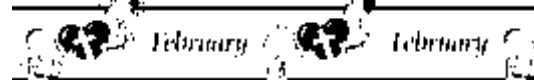
How much should I pledge? That is up to each individual, according to their abilities and desires.

What is the pledge for? A pledge helps our local UMW run its programs for the year.

Our UMW has a fund-raising luncheon each year, and the majority of the money is given back to the Circles to donate to their favorite charities. However, our UMW needs money to run our programs. We donate an item to our parsonage each year, we pay for our Christmas Program, we pay for the printing of our annual yearbook, and we donate \$400 to the District and National UMW programs. For more information, see the UMW Bulletin Board in the Narthex. If you desire to pledge, see your Circle leader or Carol Miller.



MEMBERS UPDATE



CHRISTIAN CONDOLENCES

Please continue to remember the families who have lost their loved ones:

- To Elsa & Victoria Stonebridge & family at the passing of Elsa's sister Bonnie Faber who passed away Jan 21st.

REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS:

Please remember our friends in prayer, by cards, calling and remembering our

Lord's command to "visit the sick"
(Matt 25:39).

NURSING HOME & HOMEBOUND

Carmine Iandoli—Veterans Mem. Jean Ryan—Brandywine Assist.—PA; Bob & June Eissmann; Mildred Dyke, Leah Ferber; Janice Nigra—Arbor Glenn.

ALTAR OF PRAYER:

Isabelle Oxley (home) Charlotte Wendel (PA); Frank Crouch (home); Jeff Pruiksma (home); Margie Smarsh (home); Delbert McNeill (home); Marlaina Santiago-Malek (home); Diane Ziskin (recovering at home); Mary Riker (home); Flo Romano (home); Eloise Mitchell (home); Charlie Flannagan (CareOne); Loretta Richardson (Acute Care Center); Frank Schmitt (Fld. Hospital); Gary Ziskin (recovering at home).

Prayers for all our senior citizens dealing with the challenges of aging.



UPCOMING WEDDINGS & CELEBRATIONS OF MARRIAGE:

Lisa-Marie Batelli & Aaron Black, July 27, 2012.

Congratulations to the Smith family on the marriage of Terri Smith & CJ Carrera—Dec 30th, 2011.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Paul & Beth Billig on the safe arrival of their granddaughter Rebecca Lynn Figura, Jan 14th, 7lbs 1oz. (Proud parents, Kelly & Michael Figura.)



SAT AFTERNOON @ THE MOVIES
"FACING THE GIANTS"
February 11th, 2PM in the Lee Lounge



Facing the Giants is the story of Grant Taylor, a high school football coach with a mediocre record. After several poor seasons, the Shiloh Eagles are considering replacing him as head coach. This is not the only problem Taylor is facing: his car is breaking down, the players' fathers are trying to get him fired, and he discovers that he is the reason that his wife Brooke cannot become pregnant.

Don't Miss It!



- 1—William Oscar Juhlin
- 3—Drew Juhlin
- 8—Lesley Mostello
- 8—Mason Van Biert
- 10—Craig Davenport
- 12—Maryann Pruiksma
- 14—John Downing
- 16—Ken Passafaro
- 17—Allyson Zicker
- 22—Barbara Fitzgerald
- 23—Rebecca Dubowchik
- 23—Gayla Iglody
- 23—Kelly Wenz De Feo
- 24—Beth Billig
- 25—Amanda Krattiger
- 25—Max Klum
- 27—Lara Dubowchik
- 27—Nancy Venezia
- 28—Brian Van Biert



LITURGISTS IN FEBRUARY:

- 5—Peter Dewes
- 12—Lynn Wielinga
- 19—Doug Bolton
- 26—Emily Van Biert

ACOLYTES IN FEBRUARY:


- 5—Kacie B.
- 12—Lisa P.
- 19—Max K.
- 26—Karen B.

COMMUNION STEWARDS IN FEBRUARY:

- 5—Dale Marsh & Marion Start

USHERS/GREETERS/COUNTERS:

Do you want to serve? We have openings every week. See Tom Passante & Paul Billig for more info.

 **SOUP FUNDRAISER**
FEB 19th

This month's soups are:
Minnestrone
Potato Leek
Prices: \$5/pint & \$8/quart.
See the order form included in this issue of the February Belfry or download order form online at:
www.littlefallsumc.org/events-2/

 **MARY MARTHA CIRCLE**

Mary Martha Circle is collecting soup cans for CUMAC (Center for United Methodist Aid to the Community (Food Bank in Paterson). Our goal is to collect 500 cans. Collection begins today through Feb 19th. Will you help us? Please bring as many soups as you can to help us reach our goal!

 **ASH WED SERVICE**
FEB 15TH, 12:15PM

Join us as we gather together in the Plass Chapel for a time of reflection and worship during this Lenten Season.
All are welcome!
Note: There will also be an Ash Wednesday Evening Service, Feb 22nd at 7pm.

The Pastor's Pen

"A Clean Heart...Create in Me."

The Lenten Season is already upon us—even though some of us have yet to store away all the Christmas ornaments and decorations. In a sense, there is something holy about how the two seasons merge so quickly—the birth of our Lord celebrated on December 25th...and now less than two months later, we begin to follow Christ on the road to Calvary and the cross, as Ash Wednesday abruptly arrives on February 22nd.

Just as we did for Advent, we'll have a daily guide to help us make sense of this Lenten Season, written by the famous Christian author and scholar, C.S. Lewis (1898-1963). The Lenten Guide is called "A Clean Heart, Create in Me."

You may have noticed that the word order in that well-known verse from Psalm 51:10 is subtly reversed in the title. Rather than the original, which reads: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me," the "me" part in these Lenten reflections comes after the clean heart...as far as the order of importance.

Such a change in the phrasing suggests that we humans have a tendency to expect change before we have adequately named and confessed the things which need changing. We jump too quickly to the "new me" part, rather than first focusing on what we needed to change about the "old me."

He seems to be on to something in this argument about the human condition that winds its way throughout his well-written reflections. If we're honest, we do allow things to separate us from God and from one another in the time between one Lenten Season to another, whether or not it is intentional. To this end, Lewis encourages us to name those things, and to confess and deal with them...so that by Easter morning, we'll know what things Christ died for...and what things we might still be hanging on to...that desperately need to be placed at the foot of that victorious cross.

Here's a sample of the first reflection found in his daily readings for Lent. Lewis writes: "Christianity tells people to repent, and then promises them forgiveness. Yet, it is only after we have realized that there is a real Moral Law, and a Power behind the Law, and that we have broken that law and wronged that Power---it is only after this realization," Lewis argues, "and not a moment sooner, that Christianity really begins to talk." Only then, does our faith lead to transformation.

"So wash me!" cries the Psalmist (Psalm 51:2). "Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sins," he prays, realizing that he has not kept God's commands. And then ...only then... does he dare ask God a few verses later, to "Create in him a clean heart, and to put a new and right spirit within

him" (Psalm 51:10). Only then, can the Psalmist's faith lead him to holier and "wholer" living.

Perhaps, just like those Christmas ornaments and boxes of decorations that will linger in the corners of our lives until we finally put them away, the same is true for us. We can't fully start a new season or begin a new journey, until we have honestly confronted what is still lying around in our lives that needs attention. This Lenten Season, may we confess those things, repent of them, and truly turn. May this be the season when we realize how much our sins have cost God...so that we might fully appreciate and celebrate that in Christ, our debt is forgiven. In Christ, the tally sheet is erased. In Christ, we can be made whole.

I hope you'll join us for both Ash Wednesday Services this year. The first is noonday February 15th, at 12:15pm in the Chapel and the second is at 7pm Wednesday evening on February 22nd in the Sanctuary for the imposition of the Ashes and the celebration of Holy Communion. Also, please take your free Lenten Devotional Booklet entitled, "A Clean Heart, Create in Me" from the welcome table outside the sanctuary entrance. You are encouraged to use it daily for prayer and reflection as we journey through this holy season together.

With much love and appreciation for all of you,
—Pastor Don



UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP 7:30pm
Begins on Wed Feb 1st, -March 14th, at 2 & 7:30pm. Pastor Mitchell will begin a study entitled "Walking the Talk," a study discussion on the Epistle of James. (Note: No Bible Study Feb 22nd, due to Ash Wed Service at 7pm.)

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY CHILI & SUBS FUNDRAISER
Feb 5th, 2012
(Final Day for orders is Jan 29th.)

CUMAC LUNCHEON
Feb 11th, 11:30am
(See the ad on pg 1 for more info)

TRUSTEES MEETING
Mon, Feb 13th, 7pm

FINANCE MEETING
Tues, Feb 14th, 7:30pm

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS
Wed, Feb 15th, 12:15pm
(See the ad on pg 2 for more info.)

RUTH LEE MEETING
Feb 13th, 5:30pm


SATURDAY AFTER-NOON @ THE MOVIES
Feb 11th, 2-4pm
(See the ad on pg 2 for more info.)

ASH WEDNESDAY
Feb 15th, 12:15pm in the Plass Chapel & Feb 22nd, in the Sanctuary at 7pm.

ADMIN COUNCIL MTG
Feb 28th, 7:30pm

SAVE-THE-DATE! FISH & CHIPS DINNER
March 16th, 4:30-7:30pm
(See ad on pg 4 for more info)

UMW LABEL COLLETION
For the year 2011, our UMW has sent 1000 labels to the Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky. The Mission is an Institution of the United Methodist Church within the Red Bird Mission Conference. We send them the Boxtop labels, along with Campbell's & Tyson A+ labels. Thanks to Esther Meder and her helpers - Hazel Emmerson, Janet Youngster, Isabel Oxley and Eleanor Schmitt for sorting, counting and mailing the labels. Please continue saving labels for this worthwhile project, and place them on the metal rack at the end of the narthex, where we also collect items for CUMAC. Let's see if we can send more labels this year - look for them on many grocery items. It costs us nothing but postage. For more info on Red Bird, see their web site at www.rbmission.org.



BUY SCRIP GIFT CARDS:
Four Sundays into the new year and the congregation has purchased \$9,865 in Scrip providing the church budget with 493.25 in profit and there is still one more Sunday in January. In the 15 years the Scrip program has been active we have purchased over 1.5 Million dollars in Scrip for a total profit to the church budget of \$75,381.25, and all we did was do something we would do regardless - eat. Thanks for participating in the Scrip program.
- Peter & Janet Dewes





The Able Table

Cooking Classes
with Chef
Edith Hamilton

Location: LFUMC
Fellowship Hall Kitchen

“How to Prepare Quick & Healthy Meals”

with hands-on cooking sessions tailored towards the specific skills & interests of participants. Participants may choose either morning or evening classes. You are encouraged to sign up for the entire 5-week course. However, we will accept registration for individual classes *as space permits*. Students will taste-test all their prepared foods.

Daytime Course: Feb 9th, 16th, 23rd & Mar 1st & 8th
Thursdays—10am to 12noon

Evening Course: Feb 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th & Mar 6th
Tuesdays—7-9pm

Topics include: *Making Quick, Easy Meals, Healthy Cooking for One or Two, Delicious Yeast Breads, Homemade Jams & Jellies, and more.* Cost: \$30 per class or the discounted price of \$125 for the 5-week course. *Proceeds will go towards feeding the hungry in our area in times of need.* Note: Cooking Course limited to the first 8 paid participants. Please include payment with registration. Checks should be made payable to Little Falls UMC.

About Our Cooking Instructor

Chef Edith Hamilton has more than forty-five years experience in teaching cooking classes as a professional in the food service industry, including the Montclair Adult School, the Deron School, Summit Public Schools, and the Union County Educational Services Commission. She earned a B.S. degree from Plattsburgh State University (NY) and holds multiple certificates in food service management, sanitation, and production. An accomplished cook since age 10, Chef Hamilton continues to generously share her culinary gifts and her love for healthy, well-prepared foods with her church, her community, & the many students who have attended her classes over the years.

To Register: Sign up online at www.littlefallsumc.org/able-table/ or call the church at 973.256.0993. Little Falls United Methodist Church | 139 Main St. | Little Falls, NJ 07424

LFUMC Soup of the Month Fundraiser



February Soups of the Month:

Minnestrone & Potato Leek

Homemade by Edie Hamilton

Available for pick-up after church on

Sunday, February 19th, 2012



\$5 per pint or \$8 per quart

Pre-Orders are greatly appreciated! Please complete the form below and give to Allison Smith or **Edie Hamilton... or drop it off at the church office.**

Can you help? Volunteers are needed in the Kitchen on Feb 18th. Meet in the Kitchen at 9am if you are able to help out. For more info e-mail Edie Hamilton at:

chuck1941@gmail.com

SOUP OF THE MONTH ORDER FORM (Feb 19th)

Name: _____

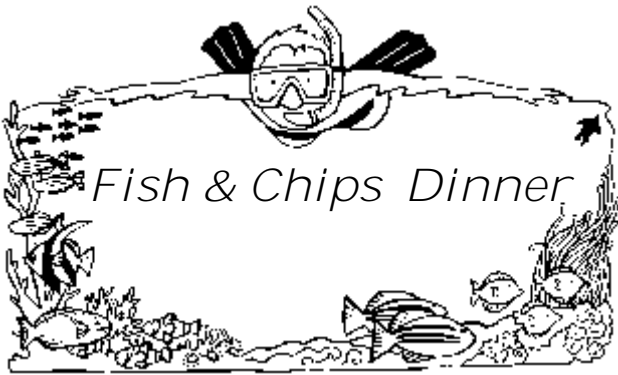
Soup: _____ No. of Pint(s) _____ No. of Quart(s) _____

Soup: _____ No. of Pint(s) _____ No. of Quart(s) _____

Please submit orders to the church office, Allison Smith or Edie Hamilton.

Thanks for your support!

LITTLE FALLS UMC—UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday March 16th 4:30-7:30pm

Order form included in this issue of the Belfry.

Tickets are \$15/person &
\$3 Pizza tickets/children.

Please complete and submit order forms with your
payment to Kathy Flannagan or deliver to the
Church Office.

See Kathy Flannagan or call the
office 973.256.0993 for tickets.

You can also download order forms online at:
www.littlefallsumc.org/events-2/

Eat in or Take Out
(Pre-orders preferred.)



MARCH BELFRY: Please submit info to be included in the March Belfry by Feb. 20th.
E-mail: info@littlefallsumc.org



LITTLE FALLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
139 Main St., Little Falls, NJ 07424
Phone: 973.256.0993
E-Mail: info@littlefallsumc.org
Web: www.littlefallsumc.org

