



THE TENNILLE TESTIMONY

Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

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World Day of Prayer Salad Luncheon March 3, 2006 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

The Tennille United Methodist Women will be hosting a World Day of Prayer Salad Luncheon on Friday March 3 at 12 noon in the W.B. Smith Bldg. Rev. Jim Dominy of Piney Mount UMC will be the guest speaker. We will then enjoy a salad luncheon prepared by the TUMW. Come and enjoy a time of prayer, food and fellowship. All are welcome.

Dublin District Conference Pine Forest UMC, Dublin March 12, 2006 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm Bishop B. Michael Watson Preacher

The Dublin District Rally is a great event to attend. It is a time for learning about mission projects being sponsored and led by our District Churches; a time for hearing reports about the work UMW and UMM of the District; a time for seeing old friends and making new friends; and best of all a time to hear some outstanding preaching. This year Bishop Watson will be the preacher. Rhonie and I, as well as others from our church, have been attending these meetings each year for over 20 years. Each year we continue to be amazed by the reports of the work for the Lord that our Dublin District is doing around the district and around the world. We hope that you will plan to attend this year.

United Methodist Women's Day Sunday, March 12, 2006

Each year on UMW Day, the women of the church assist in leading the worship service. This year, Reba Barlow will be the guest speaker. During the service a Special Recognition Pin will be awarded to someone from our church and a gift will be made to the mission work of the UMW in honor of that person. We hope that you will join us on this special day as we recognize and honor the women of our church and their faithful service to the Lord.

United Methodist Women's Spiritual Growth Retreat March 24 – 26, 2006 Epworth-by-the-Sea

Several women from our church are planning to attend the Spiritual Growth Retreat at Epworth-by-the-Sea on March 24 – 26. Our President, Patsy Blount, says this will be a special time for her this year because she will be accompanied not only by her daughter, Deana, but also by her two granddaughters, Deidra and Catherine. Others who plan to attend are Linda Deem, Paula McMaster and Reba Barlow. If you would like to join them on this weekend, contact Patsy at 552-9567. Those planning to attend have a special request of our congregation—they would like you to donate a pair of shoes for either a boy or girl to be given to a child at one of the UMW supported mission organizations. Bring the shoes to the church by March 19.

Prayer Chain/SS Class

The Nurturing Committee under the leadership of Selwyn May met recently to discuss needs of the church. One of the results of that meeting was the need for a Prayer Chain within the church to notify all members when there is a special prayer need. Patsy and Dean Blount, our Family Coordinators have developed a format for the Prayer Chain and you will soon be receiving more information about this in the mail. Another need which is now being met is a new Sunday school class for our children. Dwight and Suzanne Irons are teaching this class using music, storytelling, crafts and love.

Visioning Workshop March 18, 2006 9:30 am – 2:00 pm Wrightsville First UMC

A Visioning Workshop will be held at Wrightsville First UMC on March 18, 2006. Dr. Brad Brady, Director of Connectional Ministries for the South Georgia Conference will lead the workshop. Our Visioning Team includes Charles Nicholson, Lucy Nell Smith, Reba Barlow, Mary Moye, Dan Moye, Derek Spry, Martha Taylor, Jean Beville, Margaret Northington, Leona Rogers, Selwyn May, Thomas Smith, Faye McMaster and Rev. Peter Barlow. We hope that many of these team members will be able to attend this workshop.

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The Tennille Testimony

Bread of Life

The second Wednesday evening each month Tennille United Methodist Church is participating in the *Bread of Life* program. This mission provides an evening meal to almost 60 needy families in our community.

March 1, 2006, 7:30 pm

Annie Lou Hodges Circle
At the home of Paula McMaster

March 15, 2006, 10:30 am

Erin Holder Smith Circle
At the home of Doris Patrick

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the families of:

Douglas McArthur 'Mac' Brantley
Harrell Clifton Peck
Christopher Stahl
Dr. Robert Bickham

TUMC Website

Thanks to Selwyn May, the TUMC has a web site. Important news about the church and photos of special events are posted on the site. Visit at www.tennilleumc.org and click on the links to explore the site. I think you will love it.

Time Change for Radio Ministry

Beginning on March 5, 2006, Tennille United Methodist Church Services which are aired on radio station WJFL 101.9 will be heard at 9:00 am on Sunday Mornings. Recorded worship services are also available for purchase. You may access the TUMC website for a listing of sermon topics; then submit your order via email or call the church at 478-552-7811. Tapes are \$2.00 each (if mailed) or \$1.00 each (if picked up from the church).

The following article appeared in the March, 2006 edition of the ECF Newsletter, a publication of the Washington County Regional Hospital Extended Care Facility. It was written by Bonnie Hitchcock, the activities director.

Volunteer Spotlight of the Month: Leona Rogers

Leona Rogers is a storyteller. She is an entertainer. She is an artist. She is a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a faithful church member, a choir member, a mission's director, and a friend.

When I think of Leona, I think of color. Leona splashes color everywhere she goes. I wonder sometimes if she shouldn't be on stage, but I somehow think that life is her stage and the earth is her canvas. She is fun-loving and spontaneous. She laughs heartily. She brings sunshine and a smile to the residents of Washington County Extended Care Facility on a regular basis.

Leona Rogers has been involved in service to the community for over 20 years. She sees a need and goes to work to meet that need. Recently she made cushions for the children to sit on during story time at the Brentwood School library.

ECF has benefited greatly from her gracious giving. Leona heard that we wanted to start a Red Hat Society. She spoke to her ladies group and they donated money to provide hats for everyone. Leona shares her collection of fabric and her gift of sewing with ECF. She makes table dressings for the dining room for each season. Red Hat Bags were a nice surprise for each resident one year at Christmas. Each bag was made with special care and attention with the personality of each resident in mind.

On the 2nd Tuesday of each month, Leona has Craft Time. She provides the materials needed to make jewelry. She allows each lady to select her favorite style and color, and she works patiently with each resident who needs special one on one attention.

In December, Leona and a home-bound resident stitched together Christmas ornaments. She then let

the residents decorate each ornament with beads, lace and whatever they wanted to make each ornament individually unique.

Leona has the gift of Storytelling. She meets with the residents on Thursday mornings to tell Angel Stories. She makes us laugh and cry. The stories are lessons of hope and encouragement. Before beginning, she visits several room-bound residents. She makes it a point to speak to every resident who attends and gives each one a special hug.

She laughs heartily and her spirit is contagious. She brings her grandchildren, ages 5 and 14 to Craft and Story time when they are out of school. She is teaching them the value of giving to others.

Leona is always the same, always smiling, always loving, and always giving. However, she says, "I get far more than I give."

Reba's Reflections

Have you been reflecting on what **God Just May Do** in your life this month? In our community? Pastor Pete had some of us read the story of Jonah during the service January 29, highlighting on the king's response: "*Who knows? God may relent and change His mind; He may turn from His fierce anger, so that we do not perish.*" Some of us are gathering together to pray that God change the hearts of the un-churched community of Washington County that they might not perish. I have also had heavy burden for all the children of Washington County since our schools will not allow the Gideon's to hand out Bibles in the schools. Our community needs prayer for strength to stand up and do what is right no matter the cost. Will you help us pray? Pastor Pete used the illustration of boiling the following in water separately: Potatoes go from hard to soft (don't go soft on us); eggs go from soft to hard (don't harden your heart to the word of God); coffee a little change...but has influenced its surroundings. We can influence our surroundings with prayer and love.

And a way to influence our world is our gifts to the Gideon's, and allowing them to buy more Bibles to **give** to all who need them. On February 19, Mark Riner told us of many testimonies of those who have received these gifts and how they gave their life to our Lord Jesus Christ as a result. Every time you give to the Gideon's and someone gets saved...you had a part in it. Thank you for giving to the Lord. Another way to help the Gideon's is to pray that they are able to give Bibles to all that the Lord tells them to.

We are the salt! Washington County needs the enhancement of Jesus Christ in their lives...so spread a little salt. It really is an honor to be called: "You Ole Salty Dog" If you read the above article, you will see Leona Rogers is very contagiously salty...way to go Leona. Thank you for giving to our Lord in such a special way. We have a lot of salt in TUMC...let's find different ways to share it. Pastor Pete gave us one way that is to give to an unchurched person the book "*God's Sacrifice for You*". If you haven't shared this book yet, don't give up, God will show you who to share it with. God's word doesn't come back void, & I also believe He didn't instruct Pete to give these out for naught. Listen, and see who you can bless with the word of the Lord.

Remember the soy bean, soy bean oil, soy bean crisco? They are all the same, but the crisco has been hydrogenated into a form that can not be broke down. If you put a spoon of crisco in some battery acid, the spoon will melt but the crisco will with stand the heat. Let's not forget to allow the work of the Holy Spirit transforming us into the image of Christ...Cristo; One that is able to withstand heat, persecution, trials and tribulation and not be altered or destroyed. Be the best you can be with the Holy Spirit working daily in your life, through prayer & obedience of loving others...especially the unlovable.

I have done things a little different this month. I have salted the reflections with just a hint of each sermon...in hopes that it will make ones who have stopped coming thirsty enough to join us. Our pastor is a man of faith, and it shows in all his sermons. Besides we need you to complement our church with your presence. You don't realize what a blessing of God you are to this community, and we need you.

Pastor Pete's Ponderings

Well, its here—Lent. Aren't you excited?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1, and ends on Holy Saturday, April 15. *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means “spring.” Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. Because all Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent should be tempered with joyful expectation of the Resurrection. (*United Methodist Book of Worship*)

Since the seasons of Lent and Easter celebrate the most definitive aspects of God's redemptive acts, we must carefully plane our worship and personal disciplines with prayerful study of the Scriptures. Lent is a time for evangelism and for true conversion—a time for growing through repentance, fellowship, prayer, fasting, and concentration upon our baptismal covenant. We are to be signs of God's Kingdom in this world. The themes of repentance and preparation for sharing in the death and resurrection of Christ are basic to those preparing for baptism and confirmation and to the whole body of Christians who will renew their baptismal faith during the Easter season. **Lent is thus not giving up something but rather taking upon ourselves the intention and the receptivity to God's grace so that we may worthily participate in the mystery of God-with-us.** (*The New Handbook of the Christian Year*)

During the last three Sundays I have been handing out two small books to each person in attendance. These books were provided to us by Keith Lindsey of the Acts 13 Initiative Ministry. Keith saw them as an opportunity to sow into the Kingdom of God here in Washington County. One book, “*The Greatest Sacrifice*” is a forty day devotion to be used by the Christian as a Lenten devotion. The second book, “*God's Sacrifice for You*” is an evangelistic tool. I've challenged us to pray and ask God to reveal a name of an unchurched person to us in order that we might give this book to them and invite them to our Easter Sunday service.

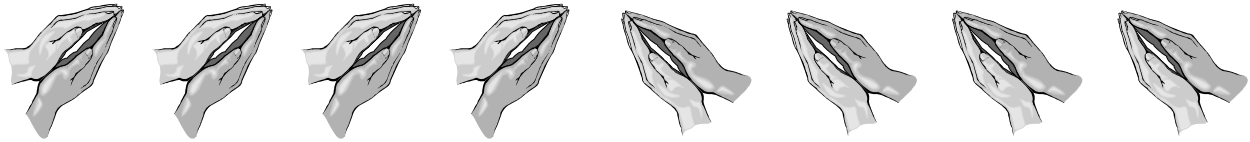
How can we be effective sign's of God's Kingdom in Washington County? One way is to be more intentional in sharing our faith. If you have been a Christian for over two years, chances are, most of your friends are church members. We need to be deliberate in finding ways to have contact with the unchurched in our community. Lent is a great time to be intentional about that. First, we can use the devotion to help us to be more aware of God's grace in our lives. Secondly, by prayerfully seeking someone to give the book, “*God's Sacrifice for You*” to and invite to our Easter service. Studies show that many of the unchurched are just waiting for an invitation.

If you don't have your two books that means you haven't been to worship in at least three weeks.(Not that I'm counting) Why not come this Sunday? It wont be too late to start the Lenten devotion and certainly not too late to share the second book with some else.

Come on now—admit it—aren't you excited about Lent?

Pastor Pete

The Tennille Testimony



Our Prayer Concerns and Praise Reports

Name	Name
Peter & Reba Barlow	Chad Field (soldier has been shot in head)
Bob Northington	Don Sheppard
Jim Kitchings	Lucyle Ballentine
Jerry Gill	Will Garland (5yr old child)
Tim & Danielle Patnode	Margaret Northington
Tom Mingledorff	Billie Sweat
Marie Hagood	Mary Marshall
Estelle Webb	Traci Mizelle
Diane Haywood	Tiahna Hoff
Family of Mac Brantley	Australia Cochran
Dr. William Taylor	Audrey Cook
Hazel & Dennard Miller	Grace Irons
Rubye Brantley	Mark & Pat Zeitlin
Lamar & Nicole Belew	Phillipa Denny
Bess Freeman	Bonnie Hitchcock
Roger Deem	Sol Thomas
Maggie Farmer	Reuben Moskowitz
George Logue	Otis Davis
Elmer Moss	Monty Rose
Elsie Marchman	Deidra Blount
All Disaster Victims	Billy Bowers
Soldiers	Henrietta Lewis
Ruth Ann Johnson	Louise Cook
Billie Jean Wofford	Steve & Jennie Johnson
Frankie Frost	Daniel May
Lee Cook	Jean Bevill's Sister

Please pray for these people daily as you pray. Who do you know needs prayer? Could it be you? Has God answered any of the above prayers? Let us rejoice with you. Submit to Reba Barlow – pereb@bellsouth.net or call 478-552-7883 or hand me their written name please.

