

the Chimes

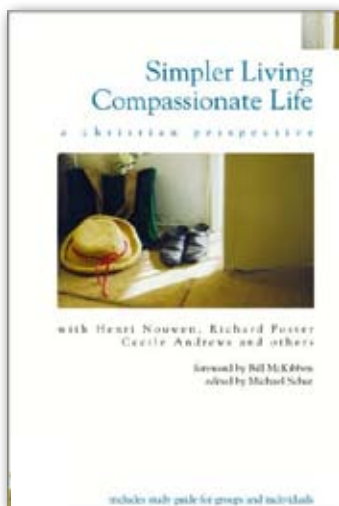
A NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MADISON

Simpler Living Compassionate Life

a c h r i s t i a n p e r s p e c t i v e

First Church members and friends have just started a six-week all-church study with the book *Simpler Living Compassionate Life*. As part of this study, we are learning how to encourage actions and lifestyles which more deeply reflect core Christian values and result in more meaningful, joyful living. Even if you haven't joined a small group, we hope you'll consider reading along in this book of very powerful essays.

There is a helpful study guide included with the book that suggests actions steps to put into practice from what has been learned. If you would like to be a part of a study group, you are still welcome to join in. Please visit our website www.fumc.org or call the church office at 608-256-9061 for times and locations.



The call to simplicity and freedom for Christians is the call to move from achievement oriented spirituality to a life centered on a shared vision of relatedness to people and things, a relatedness of gentleness, of compassion, of belonging to one another.

Richard Bower

Worship at First Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP
8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.

January 23
"It's Really an Invitation"
How the call of the first disciples relates to the call we experience today
Text: Matthew 4:12-23

January 30
"Happiness Is. . ."
Reflections on the Beatitudes
Text: Matthew 5:1-12
9:30 a.m. - Chamber Choir
11 a.m. - Worship in the Chapel; Music from the New Choir

Looking Ahead: February 6
Holy Communion will be celebrated at all three worship services.

We seek to embody grace and hospitality in the manner of Jesus, nurturing our diverse spiritual journeys and joining together as a servant community to help realize a more loving and just world.

Musings

This after-Christmas, pre-Lent season of the Christian year is called Epiphany. It is a season that began a few weeks ago with wise men searching the heavens and following a star. It's a season when, like those wise men, we try to open our hearts and minds so that we might be better able to receive and recognize our own "ah-ha!" experiences, or God-moments, or epiphanies. The season of Epiphany is about being personally connected to that first star-trek, and being inspired by our own journeying experiences.

The magi knew about getting personally connected. The King of Persia or whoever the rulers of the magi were didn't get personally connected. Herod didn't get personally connected. The priests and scribes who knew very well about the ancient prophecy of the Messiah's birth didn't even get personally connected, but the magi did. They noticed when one particular star started doing funny things. They used their tools and their knowledge of the stars to help guide them. They made the long journey to Jerusalem and they started asking questions. They heard the ancient, prophetic words about the birth of a Savior and they heard a ruthless king's commands. As they put all of these pieces together they were drawn to Bethlehem where they found a child and his mother. The magi became personally connected and it made all the difference for them.

Something in the stars captured both the attention and the imaginations of those wise men centuries ago. The stars prompted them to start a journey and to start asking questions. What is your star? What will seize your attention and your imagination and get you started on a journey of asking questions that may prompt a change in the course of your journey?

The magi started on a journey that took them to an unexpected place, but it was a place of such truth and meaning and substance, that their journey home took a different direction. They were star-struck with the hope and promise represented in a special child named Jesus and their encounter with him literally changed the course of their journey. That kind of star-trek is what I hope and pray for all of us in this season of Epiphany and in all the seasons of our lives.



Tina Lang, Minister of Discipleship



“The magi became personally connected and it made all the difference for them.”



El Salvador/Habitat Trip Sign up by Thursday, February 1

The deadline for turning in applications and deposits for the 2011 Habitat for Humanity trip to Ahuachapán, El Salvador is February 1. This journey, which will take place over Holy Week, April 16-23, will be a spiritual, educational and community building experience for all participants. The trip is open to anyone supporting Habitat for Humanity's work. No construction expertise is required.

For people interested in this ministry, but unable to go themselves, the FUMC International Ministry Team welcomes sponsorships to offset the costs for individuals who are going, or who would like to go on the trip. For more information pick up a brochure at the church Information Desk or contact the trip leader, John Stolzenberg, at JohnStolzenberg@charter.net or 608-236-0320.



2010 Habitat group at work in El Salvador.



Emilie Townes

Emilie Townes Featured at 2011 Lyons Lecture

This year's Lyons Lecture presents Dr. Emilie Townes of the Yale Divinity School on April 30 giving two presentations. Dr. Townes, whose home church as a child was the Asbury Temple United Methodist Church in Durham, North Carolina, is a womanist who teaches in the fields of Christian social ethics and African American religious communities, working to show theoretical and practical links between African American religions and other theological and academic disciplines.

Who or what is a "womanist"? This is a term that the novelist Alice Walker used in a 1983 essay to describe a kind of black feminism in which, for Dr. Townes, there is an emphasis on the particularity of the African American experience and how it can inform relationships, spirituality, theology, and our understandings of liberation and social justice.

A prolific author and editor of many volumes, articles, and essays, her books include *Womanist Justice*, *Womanist Hope* (1993), and *Breaking the Fine Rain of Death: African American Health Issues* and a *Womanist Ethic of Care* (1998). Her most recent book, *Womanist Ethics and the Cultural Production of Evil*, was published in 2006. Dr. Townes has participated in many panels and colloquia, including a State of the Black Union Tenth Anniversary Conversation with Tavis Smiley on C-Span in February of 2009. She is a compelling speaker who draws on the authority of her own experience and who has been characterized by colleagues as "poetic and prophetic," using words that "dance as they coax, berate, and persuade."

We look forward to an intellectual and spiritual treat in the tradition of our former pastor, the late David Lyons, whose interest in "questions more than answers" has been the spur for the successful Lyons Lecture series. If you have not done so, be sure to set aside Saturday, April 30 to hear Dr. Townes.

Sunshine in a Box Youth Missions Fruit Sale Sundays, January 23 – February 13

Church youth are selling delicious fruit to help raise funds for the High School ASP and Middle School mission trips. Choose from a variety of mixed fruit boxes containing sweet and juicy oranges, grapefruit, pineapples, apples and pears, tangelos and more. Get a dose of sunshine and support the youth mission trips at the same time. Orders can be placed at the Youth Kiosk in the Octagon on Sunday mornings from January 23 until February 13. Pickup day for the fruit will be Sunday, February 27. Thank you for your support.

first church News

Yoga: Good for Body, Mind and Spirit

Two weekly sessions:

Mondays, 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Chapel, Instructor: Meg Wambach

FUMC has been hosting yoga classes for over 2 years now. I can tell you from my own experience that regular yoga practice is therapeutic for mind, body and spirit. It teaches me to slow down and to take a more intentional approach to everything I do. And my yoga practice has helped me feel healthier, while I increase strength and flexibility. Doing the poses often helps alleviate aches and pains for which I might otherwise have taken medication to treat.

No prior yoga experience is necessary for these classes. Meg assists with modifications as needed for everything we do. All mats and accessories are supplied. The fees are \$30 for a six week session; or \$6 per class on a drop-in basis. All proceeds go to our food pantry.

Why not try something new in 2011? See you there!

Kathie Nichols

Newcomer Lunch Gathering – Sunday, January 30

12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Friends interested in membership in First Church are cordially invited to attend a luncheon gathering with Pastor Keith Schroerlucke on Sunday, January 30 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. If you would like to attend, please contact Mary Hasheider at mhasheider@fumc.org or 608-256-9061 Ext. 34 by Tuesday, January 25. Childcare is available upon request.

Recycle the Warmth Blanket Drive Sunday, January 30

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul welcomes donations of new and gently used blankets, pillows, sheets and other bedding during their annual blanket drive. Your donations will be collected at First Church on Sunday morning, January 30. All bedding and blankets collected are given FREE to our neighbors in need throughout 2011. Thank you!

Next Chimes Deadline

Please submit your articles for the February 3 edition of *Chimes* by Thursday January 27 to chimes@fumc.org. Thank you.

Come Make Music

If you have an interest in making music, we have an ensemble for you! Consider this your open invitation – no auditions required – to join one of the church's music groups:

The **Chancel Choir** meets on Thursday nights from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the lower level music room. We are just beginning to learn new music, so this would be a perfect time to join.

We have a **New Choir** that rehearses on Sunday mornings from 10:30 until just before 11 a.m. and sings once a month for the 11 a.m. worship service.

The **Blessed Brass** rehearses one Monday night per month and just prior to the Sunday morning worship service when they play. Call Scott Foss at 608-256-9061 for schedule details.

The **Bell Choir** is looking for people who can fill in as subs. If you have experience playing bells or would like to learn, contact Scott to add your name to the sub list.

Music has always been an important part of the worship experience here at First Church. If you would like to experience the personal rewards of contributing to worship services, please consider joining one of our music groups.

We Challenge YOU!

Get fit while raising money for our FUMC Food Pantry.

For every pound of weight you lose or for every hour you exercise from now until May 31, the Princeton Club and other sponsors will contribute 10 pounds of food (up to a million pounds!) to Second Harvest Food Bank. You don't need to be a member of the Princeton Club to take part in the Million Dollar Challenge. To specify the FUMC food pantry as the recipient go to: www.princetonclub.net/mpc and click on "Sign Up", then join the First United Methodist "team". In the second drop-down box, click on First United Methodist Church and all the food donated to Second Harvest Food Bank in your name will go to our pantry.

Register to lose weight or to keep track of the amount of time you exercise each week. **The monetary credit the FUMC food pantry receives from the Food Bank is \$1 for every pound lost or hour exercised.** If you register when you receive this *Chimes* issue, you will have 18 weeks to help raise funds for our pantry. If you and four friends walk three hours a week (or do yoga, lift weights, play basketball, etc.), you will raise \$270 by the end of the Challenge. The more First Church members who participate - and challenge their family members, friends, and co-workers to participate with them - the more we can raise for food from the Food Bank. For more information, contact Susan Jeannette at sjeannette@fumc.org or 608-256-9061.

The Challenge is on!!!



Thank You to UMW for Prayer Shawl Ministry

Judy Lyons delivered the beautiful prayer shawl when she visited me before Christmas. I love the lovely colors – several shades of royal blue and gray (tweed effect) and it keeps me cozy warm when I rest these cold days in my recliner. I miss Warren so much, but glad his suffering is over.

*Thanking you again,
With love,
Joyce Leadley*

Lay Speaker Training Basic Lay Speaker/Servant Courses Offered

Do you have gifts in the areas of Leadership, Caring Ministries, or Lay Speaking? If you feel you are being called to become more active in one of these areas, you are encouraged to attend one of the four-week course series sponsored during February and March in Lancaster, Delavan or Belmont. See our website www.fumc.org or call the church office at 608-256-9061 for a full listing.

Sunday Opportunities

Coffee, Food & Fellowship – The *First Cup Café* is open from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. Coffee fellowship time continues until 11 a.m.

The Journey – 9:30 in Room 208. A fellowship-based class with a focus toward parents and couples meets to share life journeys and discuss topics of interest.

Theology for the 21st century – 9:30 a.m. in Room LL05. Newcomers are welcome to join in the lively discussion of books being studied. The group is currently studying the book *The First Paul* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossen.

The Christian Adventure – 11 a.m. in Room 208. Come join in the interesting and enlightening conversation. From January 16 to February 20, the group will read *Simpler Living, Compassionate Life*, as part of the church wide book study.

Islam and Arabic Tradition – January 16 – February 13, 11 a.m. in Room LL05. In our increasingly global context it is important for people of faith to become better acquainted with a variety of faith traditions and cultures. Enrich your own spiritual journey by learning about Mohammed, Islamic faith practices and Arabic tradition.

Shaping a Life of Significance for Retirement – 11 a.m. in Room 203. Beginning January 23, Ann Herrold-Peterson facilitates an encore session of this class for folks moving toward retirement, recently retired, or long-time retired and interested in sharing ideas about this season of life. The class is open to previous participants and newcomers alike.

Young Adult Discussion Group – 4 p.m. in the Narthex. Childcare is available. The group is currently studying the book *Simpler Living, Compassionate Life*.

Joys & Concerns

Please remember these FUMC members and friends in your prayers: Bill Fairbanks, John Hutchinson, David Slutterback, Jane Johnson, Arabella Ann Cobb (granddaughter of Cal and Joy Cobb), and Jim Risler (Iraq).

HospiceCare Programs Offered

A variety of seminars and small groups meet every month at the HospiceCare Fitchburg facility. These are open to the public and free of charge. For a detailed list of opportunities and information about registration visit the HospiceCare website at www.hospicecareinc.com or call 608-276-4660.

First Church Food Pantry

Hours of Operation:

Monday: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday: 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Game Day Dates

The days are getting longer, but winter's dragging on. What to do to pass the time until the snow is gone?

Come to church for Game Day! Laugh, relax and snack. With good friends, both old and new, for fun you will not lack!

Join In: 1-3 p.m. in Room 208
- Wednesday, January 26
- Wednesday, February 9
- Wednesday, February 23

Birthdays

January 23

Amanda Fry, Hannah Fry,
Penny Kilkelly, Bonnie Rae Landgraf,
Peria Neblett

January 24

Erikke Grothaus, John Peterson,
Nicole Schmitgen, Diana Varner

January 25

Anne Gergen, Lauren McLean

January 26

Jessica Laycock

January 27

Luke Bedalov, Orpha Bock,
Nathan Brelsford,
Jesse Harrison Noonan, Dale Metcalf,
Matthew Moore

January 28

Jim Gill, Allan Hubbard,
John Meredith

January 29

Cal Cobb, Ken Engelman,
Andrew Gracner, Paula Montgomery,
Carrol Spencer, Evan Stiegert,
Gert Thiel

January 30

Susan Hornig, Jennifer Neblett

January 31

Chloe Goecks, Nadine Gratz,
Herb Jordan, Jiwon Jun,
Renato Millan, Braden Smith,
Karranja-Roshummari Willis

February 1

Ruby Lee, Lisandra Pagan

February 2

Fern Baard, Jessie Talbot,
Charles Vanderbloemen

February 3

Pam Fehr, John Foss,
Laura Mensink, Lillian Wirth

February 4

Joe Aliota, Rachel Furlow,
Mary Kakuske

February 5

Emily Burrows, Barb Grooms,
Judith Hutchinson,
Ella McDermott, Barb Stenson,
Myron Talcott

Anniversaries

January 28

Bob & Janice Wink

February 2

Dick & Ramona Clift – 67 years

February 5

Brian Stichter & Laura Gratz

First United Methodist Church

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CHIMES (USPS 559180) is published biweekly by First United Methodist Church, 203 Wisconsin Avenue, Madison, WI 53703-2105. Periodicals postage paid at Madison, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Chimes*, 203 Wisconsin Avenue, Madison, WI 53703-2105.

all God's Children

Youth Mission Trips Kick-Off Meeting

Sunday, January 23, LL02

An important informational meeting will take place on Sunday, January 23 at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Room.

Young people who plan to participate in the Appalachia Service Project (ASP) or the middle school mission trip and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting.

This meeting will provide:

- Details about how to register for the mission trips
- Examples of how to reduce registration fees
- Fundraising tips
- A chance to meet fellow mission trippers

The Youth will also be kicking off the first of the spring fundraisers – the fruit sale.

This event has been a successful fundraiser for mission trips in years past. All the information youth need to start selling fruit will be available. They will learn about the different ways they can help with this sale and hear tips from youth who have participated in the past.

Free Children's Beds

Ashley Furniture HomeStore provides children in need with free mattresses and boxsprings. If you know a family with this need, contact Susan at sjeannette@fumc.org or 608-256-9061, or send an email to AHopeToDream@ashleyfurniture.com to request a digital application. There are no income requirements; the eligibility guideline is simply any child between the ages of 3 and 16 who has a need for a mattress set for a good night's sleep.

Youth Spring Events Schedule

- Youth Ski/Snowboard Trip – Saturday, January 22
- Mission Trip Info Kick-Off – Sunday, January 23 (9:30 a.m., Youth Room)
- Souper Bowl of Caring – Sunday, February 6
- Fruit Sale Orders – January 23 - February 13
Pick-up on February 26 & 27
- Mardi Gras Dinner & Dessert Talent Show – Tuesday, March 8 (6:30 p.m.)
- Youth Auction – Sunday, May 8 (8 a.m. - 11 a.m.)

Contact Seth at youthya@fumc.org to sign up or for more information.

Sunday Classes & Childcare

Children

Children come to 9:30 a.m. worship and go to their classes after the Pastor's "Conversation with the Children."

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

- Wee-Learn (6-30 month-olds plus accompanying adult) – Room LL11
- 2 and 3-year-olds – Room LL19
- 4 and 5-year olds – Room LL17
- Grades K-1 – Room LL15
- Grades 2-3 – Room LL10
- Grades 4-5 – Room LL03

Youth

Meet at 9:30 a.m.

January 23 – Mission Trips

informational meeting in LL02

January 30 – Middle School – LL04

High School – LL02

Childcare

9:15 a.m. – Noon

Infant – 2 years:

First Floor Nursery - Room 104

Toddlers age 2 and older:

Lower Level Room LL12



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 www.fumc.org • 608-256-9061
 Electronic Chimes Request: chimes@fumc.org

Periodicals

Week of 1/20

Periodicals
 Postage
 Paid at
 Madison, WI

Calendar

Next CHIMES Deadline: January 27, 2011
 Next Publication: February 3, 2011

FUMC Building Open Hours

Sunday: 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 23

Fruit Sale to Support Youth Missions
 9:30 a.m. Youth Mission Trip
 Kick Off - Youth Room
 11:00 a.m. Simpler Living - Room 208
 12:00 p.m. Caring Ministries Council
 - Room 208
 4:00 p.m. Young Adults
 Simpler Living - Narthex

Monday, January 24

11:45 a.m. Yoga for Good - Chapel
 5:30 p.m. Trustees - Room 203
 7:00 p.m. Meditation Group
 - Chapel

Tuesday, January 25

5:30 p.m. Leadership Development
 Team - Room 203

Wednesday, January 26

7:30 a.m. Foundation Board
 - Room 208
 1:00 p.m. Game Day - Room 208
 6:30 p.m. Yoga for Good - Chapel

Thursday, January 27

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
 - Fellowship Hall
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
 - Music Room
 7:45 p.m. Simpler Living
 - Fellowship Hall

Friday, January 28

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
 - LL05

Saturday, January 29

9:00 a.m. Church Council Retreat
 - Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 30

Fruit Sale to Support Youth Missions
 Recycle the Warmth Collection
 10:30 a.m. Hospital Visitation Team
 - LL05
 11:00 a.m. Simpler Living
 - Room 208
 12:00 p.m. Newcomer Lunch
 - Fellowship Hall
 4:00 p.m. Young Adults
 Simpler Living - Narthex

Monday, January 31

8:00 a.m. Finance Leadership Group
 - Room 208
 11:45 a.m. Yoga for Good - Chapel
 7:00 p.m. Meditation Group - Chapel

Wednesday, February 2

11:30 a.m. Chimes Group - Room 208
 6:30 p.m. Yoga for Good - Chapel

Thursday, February 3

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
 - Fellowship Hall
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
 - Music Room
 7:45 p.m. Simpler Living
 - Fellowship Hall

Friday, February 4

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
 - LL05

Sunday, February 6

Fruit Sale to Support Youth Missions
 Souper Bowl of Caring
 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - LL06
 11:00 a.m. Simpler Living - Room 208
 11:00 a.m. Youth Council - LL04
 4:00 p.m. Young Adults
 Simpler Living - Narthex