

The Promise of Spring.



© istock.com

Music Notes

Events you won't want to miss featuring our student scholarship recipients:

March 3rd: The Magic Flute opens at the Scottish Rite Temple

March 15th: A "Salon" concert by Jordan Voth & friends at UCC

April 16th: Graduate Recital for Leanne Scaggs in WSU's Weidemann Hall, 7:30pm

Be Included submit news items by Friday., March 18th to Julie Baker: julie4design@gmail.com

Go Green if you prefer to receive an e-newsletter as a PDF each month, let us know: cathy@ucchurch.org



universitycongregationalchurch

9209 E. 29th Street North · Wichita, KS 67226
316-634-0430 · www.ucchurch.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wichita, Kansas
Permit No. 251

Steeple Notes

universitycongregationalchurch

Volume 29, Issue 3

Where head & heart are partners in faith.

March 2011

News from the Belfry

When I was a young Methodist kid Lent meant that you had to give up something. It was as if giving up Brussels sprouts was akin to the sacrifices that Jesus was making on Golgotha. Somehow my suffering was like the suffering of Jesus. Of course it was most easy to do without Brussels sprouts. I still won't eat them.



I have come to understand that Lent is not about giving up something but giving something away, especially to people whose needs are so great. I think Lent is the time to prayerfully consider the pain that so many people endure in poverty. Lent is the time to reach out to a suffering world and touch the hurts of others.

The Communities in Schools program is seeking our help this spring. You may remember that is the organization that we provide family gifts for with our Angel Tree program. They need our help providing food for children in Wichita Public Schools who are in the food assistance program. While the children are in school they are able to have both breakfast and lunch. But what happens to them during Spring break or the summer? They are seeking our help to feed these families. Would you be willing to provide a box of food for these kids and their families?

Please bring a box of food with your family's name on it and mark it "Break 4 Kids." The last day for the collection will be March 6. Place the following items in the box:

- 18 oz creamy peanut butter
- 26 oz spaghetti sauce (traditional)
- 16 oz pork and beans (2 cans)
- 18 oz grape jelly
- Tuna helper
- Canned chili
- 16 oz spaghetti
- 7.5 oz corn muffin mix (2 boxes)
- 15 oz SpaghettiOs (cans)
- 7.25 macaroni and cheese (3 boxes)
- 6 oz canned tuna
- 16 oz canned fruit cocktail/light syrup (2 cans)
- 15 oz canned kernel corn (2 cans)
- Cereal (low sugar)

If you cannot be in church Sunday, March 6th, please drop them off at the church the week before. We will not be able to deliver boxes after March 6th. If you'd rather we shop for you, send a check for \$25.00 (by March 2nd) with "Break 4 Kids" in the memo. We will handle it from there.

We know from all of our friends who serve the poor and homeless that food scarcity is a growing problem. According the 2010 census poverty in the United States has risen to 15%, up from the last survey.

Thank you all for your generosity.

Yours in faith,
Gary



page 2

Hygiene Pantry
Community News
News from the Future
Spirit Quest

page 3

Social Scene
Among Our Own

page 4

Music Notes
Be Included
Go Green

Head-To-Toe HYGIENE PANTRY

THE WORD IS GETTING OUT! We served 244 families on Feb. 5th. What does this mean? It means we need to be doing fund raising constantly! We would like to ask for your help. There are some really simple things you can do. Let me give you some examples. Katie Robu headed a product collection at her school. Rose Hill cheerleaders had a collection and volunteered a Saturday. George and Maxine Morrison collected over \$700.00 at their wine club meeting. Dawn Jester is sponsoring a product collection at her office and employees will be volunteering the next 2 pantry days! I will be doing a power point presentation to Dick Pilgrim's Lion's club soon.



If you belong to a community organization or club consider asking if we can make a presentation at their next meeting. Can you talk to someone at work about doing a collection? This is a great service project for scouts and other youth clubs. They can do a collection and volunteer a Saturday. Maybe your child's school can do a collection.

We have written information and a presentation available. If you are interested in helping contact Mimi Leo at 316-680-1325 or e-mail hpantryucc@gmail.com.

As always we are collecting feminine hygiene products and diapers. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause.

Community News


Barbara Brown Taylor

Word & Note
The Divine Arts of Knowledge and Exaltation
March 4, 5 & 6, 2011

Boston Brass

Details at
www.plymouth-church.net


 Sharing Faith's Journey
PLYMOUTH CHURCH
 CONGREGATIONAL
 Worshipping, Working, Serving

316-684-0221
202 North Clifton • Wichita, KS 67208

Spirit Quest

Religion and Life: The Spiritual Landscape of America's Nature Writers

Wednesday Evenings at 6:00.
Childcare available.

March 2: Mary Oliver's Thirst and Why I Wake Early

April 6: Wendell Berry's Given and his essay, "Christianity and the Survival of Creation"

May 4: Annie Dillard's Pilgrim at Tinker Creek and Holy the Firm

Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome and the Kingdom of God

Join us for a video presentation featuring Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan followed by discussion led by Philip Rhea.

Running March 6 thru May 22, 2011 on Sunday at 9:00am, downstairs in the Drama Room.

March 6—Empire

March 13—Jesus

March 20—Paul's Mission

March 27—Paul's Character

Social Scene

Men's Group Lunch

Meets the 3rd Thursday each month.

Thursday, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) at **11:30 am** at Louie's Grill & Bar, 9747 East 21st St. North (Webb & 21st). Let us know if you need a ride. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church office.

WG Women's Guild

Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at Noon.

Carrie Rengers, columnist for the **Wichita Eagle**, will be the featured speaker. Ms. Rengers writes a business column that highlights new businesses coming to Wichita and keeps readers abreast of new business news. Her talk is sure to be of interest. All UCC women are welcome to attend!! Social time takes place between 12:00 and 12:30, and lunch is served at 12:30. The cost for the luncheon is 7.00.

Please call Rosie Howell at 652-7985 for reservations.

Cook's Night Out

Wednesday, March 16th

Social Time 6:00pm; Buffet begins at 6:30pm

The speaker this month is **George Boyd** who was a member of the **Tuskegee Airmen of World War II**. The Tuskegee airmen were a determined and dedicated group of young men who enlisted to become the first black military airmen at a time when many people thought black men lacked intelligence, skill, courage, and patriotism. Their outstanding record of accomplishment and the superb behavior of the black airmen during World War II and after were important factors in the initiation of the historic social change to achieve racial equality in America. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the office to make your reservation. Adults \$15.00 Children (Ages 4-10) \$5.00 Childcare provided.

Among Our Own

New Members

In January, we welcomed new UCC members, Ed and Marty Hund and their daughter Hannah.

In Memoriam

Long-time UCC member **Maurine McIntyre** passed away on November 9, 2010. Our deepest condolences go out to her family.

You've Got Mail

Or maybe you don't! Many of you have become "undeliverable". And not in the "sin" kind of way. If you "used to" receive email notices for church events or snow cancelations and no longer do, it could mean we need an updated email address. Please contact the church office to update or add your email address to our growing list.

News from the future...our youth by Karen Robu



★ January 22, the CE Board sponsored a badge opportunity for local Webelos. **Thanks to Brad Blonigen** for organizing all the volunteers. Twenty-Two young boys earned their Engineering badge. The next badge opportunity will be March 12, when the three troops of boys will return to earn their Showman badge!

★ The **first Sunday in March** is an important day here at University Congregational Church. It is the day of our annual **Youth Sunday**. I hope you will all come out and support the youth of the church as they lead you through worship that morning. They have prepared music, prayers, dance, and stories for you, and I will deliver a short sermon that day as part of the requirement for my Intro to Preaching class.

★ I could not have been happier with the production of **Violet** performed here at UCC in February. The cast was incredible, the volunteers were amazing, and the audience was moved by the experience. Thanks to all of you who worked so hard to make the production such a success. Oh, and we made money too! I'm not sure exactly how much, but will let you know once all the receipts are in.

★ Don't forget the fundraiser **Spaghetti Dinner** on **Wednesday, March 9 at 6:00 pm** here at the church. The high school group will prepare, spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, and brownies. Free will offerings will be accepted. Money raised will go toward the summer 2011 youth trip to Heifer Ranch.

★ **Sunday, March 13** is our **Sunday school open house**. If you are the parent or grandparent of a child in pre-school through 5th grade, or if you are just curious about what goes on in children's Sunday school, then I would like to invite you downstairs during the Sunday service.

Yours in Faith,
Karen