

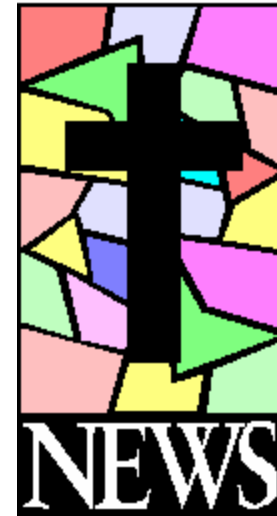
SONRISE EDITION

**RANSOMVILLE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
&
FILLMORE CHAPEL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Your Church Newsletter

March 2007

Ransomville and Fillmore Chapel
United Methodist Churches
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From Your Pastor

As we begin the season of Lent the traditional Spiritual question to ask yourself is the one Jesus asked Peter, “Who do you say I am?” Who do you say Jesus is? Is Jesus your savior, Lord, Master, Friend? Is Jesus something else to you besides these titles?

If Jesus is your Lord or Savior or another title how do you respond to him. If he is your Lord, do you serve him? How do you do that?

Lent is the time to think about who Jesus is to you and how you serve, follow, and obey him.

God’s Love Be With you,

Rev. John

March Birthdays

Ransomville

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 – Bill McLaughlin | 12 – Betty Manchester |
| 1 – Rev. John Wetherwax | 16 – Amanda Jacobs |
| 3 – Callin Wade | 19 – Timothy Truesdell |
| 3 – Teresa Trank | 20 – Michael Trank |
| 8 – Raymond Graf | 20 – Amanda Nichols |
| 8 – Gage Maacks | 22 – Marian Frey |
| 9 – Julie Spring-Hatchett | 22 – Amy Olsen |
| 10 – Eric Truesdell | 24 – Ann Jacobs |
| 10 – Doug S. Diez | 30 – Teresa Willms |

FILLMORE CHAPEL

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 – Pam Lederhouse | 24 – Austin Susice |
| 9 – Hazel Lederhouse | 25 – Pam Skellen |
| 10 – Olivia May Wills | 26 – Sue Lederhouse |
| 16 – Larry Peters | 26 – Denise Johannes |
| 22 – Mark Senek | 27 – Marc Canfield |
| 22 – Andrew Hillman | |

Anniversaries

Ransomville

- 4 – Raymond & Erva Graf

Fillmore Chapel

- 2 – Chester & Donna Sulinski
26 – Jim & Pam Tweed

Remember in Prayer

Cindy Stewart, Ruth Stewart, Doug Ortiz, Mary Ruth Blanchard, Harold Barnes, Marjorie Jeffords, Dorothy Lane, Janet Fedek, Rick Diez, Gary Alger, Fred Lederhouse, Marge Rushton, David Bills, Shirley Williams, Doug Canfield, Elaine Baia, Diane Cameron, Gloria Wiefert, Nancy Trank, Mary Ellen Belschner, Chris Bunce.

Remember in prayer the men and women in our armed forces (Bruce Schultz, Timothy Truesdell, Jeff Kramer, Ian Zerby, Kurt Mieth, Chris Hamby, Christopher Smith, Benjamin Smith, Christopher Latta, Adam Zerby, Eddie Jackson, Duane Jacobs) and the families of those who have lost loved ones in conflict.

Reverend John's office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon. Due to emergencies and unexpected interruptions he may not always be in the office so you might find it more convenient to call before visiting. Church office is 791-4978. Friday is his day off but Reverend John is always available 24 hours a day if you need him. His home phone number is 751-9376.

Activities & Meetings

Ransomville Administrative Council – Meeting is Thursday, March 8th at 7:00 PM.

Fillmore Chapel Administrative Council – Meeting is Sunday, March 18th immediately following worship.

Bible Study – Bible Study will resume March 5th at Ransomville Church at 7:00 PM.

Youth Group – Every Thursday from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in Ransomville.

Fillmore Chapel United Methodist Women will meet on March 6th at 7:00 PM. The meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month.

Cross Walk – This year the cross walk on Good Friday will be from Ransomville United Methodist Church to the Ransomville Free Methodist Church. The walk will start at 6:30 PM and the service will start at 7:00 PM.

News and Announcements

March 2 – World Day of Prayer

March 4 – Penny & Food Collection

March 11 – Daylight Savings time begins

March 17 – Fillmore Chapel Chowder Sale

How Lent Began

By Hoyt Hickman

Lent began in the early church as the time for intensive final preparation and examination of candidates for baptism at Easter.

Candidates spent as much as three years in preparation that was more like apprenticeship than classroom instruction. This concluded with a time of “scrutinizes” that became what we know as Lent. It was a time of self-examination and of scrutiny by other Christians to determine if a candidate was ready for baptism.

Later, when large numbers of adult candidates were no longer being baptized, Lent became a time when all Christians were challenged to seek spiritual renewal. The first recorded reference to Lent as 40 days was at the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. This time came to be seen as comparable to Jesus’ 40 days in the wilderness, when he fasted and prepared himself for his ministry.

Lent actually lasts 46 days, but the six Sundays in Lent do not count as part of the forty days, because Sunday is a festive celebration of Jesus’ resurrection. Even in Lent, every Sunday is a “little Easter.”

Youth News From Hap Skellen

First, thank you for all your support with our sub sale. The money made will go for our “Teen Retreat” coming this March. The youth group meets every Thursday at the Ransomville Church, in the youth area downstairs. We meet from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. We have about 10 – 12 youths each week, our meetings include games, devotion, special events, lesson time, and a fellowship time, and also snack time.

The special events that we have coming up: A movie night in the youth room, bowling at *Frontier Lanes* in Lewiston, a DCYM event in Lockport which will include skating at *Skateland*, followed by games at Lockport United Methodist Church. We are also planning an outing at a Bandits Game, our famous monthly breakfast at *Knead the Dough*, and we are hoping for an overnigher at the church (we need a lady to sleepover with us, if interested, see Hap), and finally the “Teen Retreat”.

The retreat will be held at the conference center in Olcott NY. The date this year is March 30 – April 1st. We will be sharing this weekend with the youth from Warrens Corners United Methodist Church. We will be staying in the house that holds 20 people. The teens will do their own cooking and dishes. We will have lessons all during the weekend. We will have rock climbing, bonfires, a game room, gym to play volleyball, soccer, football (a rematch) and worship times. Then we will end the weekend by worshipping at the Baptist Church in Newfane.

Up-coming meeting topics will be respect, relationships, what is faith, is our youth open to all or just whom we want. I’m hoping to get a teen Bible Study started in the coming month.

How you can help, pray for the teens, if you have time volunteer to help with driving, with our overnigher, or make a donation to our programs

They are a great group of teens; just ask them.

Fillmore Chapel Trustee's Report

At the last Administrative Board meeting we took a vote to sign a contract with Lift-avator of Lockport for our church elevator. We will sign the contract and send in a deposit. Shortly after we will receive the plans for the pre-work that we need to do. We will need help; we will have about 10 – 12 weeks to get ready for the elevator. It will take a team effort to get this project done. But as Fillmore is famous for is the way we work together. After this project is done, then no longer will a few steps stop someone from worshipping with us. This will allow us to go forward with the painting of the sanctuary and other projects that we are looking into. If you see anything needing done or and idea to make Fillmore a nicer place to worship, let a trustee know. Remember we are going to need help, see Hap. Let's get started.

Upcoming Community Events

On April 21st there will be a concert in memory of John Earl Kennedy. The concert will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Youngstown. The concert starts at 2:00 PM.

Proceeds will benefit a scholarship in his memory.

On April 28th there will be a concert *Spring Forward With Opera* at the First Presbyterian Church in Lewiston. The concert starts at 7:00 PM. Jessica Spring is a featured soloist with Ann Kennedy and friends.

Thank You Notes

To My Church Family,
I wish to thank you all for all of the prayers on my behalf. I know they are what has pulled me through. Thank you also for all of your encouragement, good wishes, cards, gifts and all of the delicious meals. I love my church family and may God bless each one of you. May you each feel the love of Jesus each moment of every day.
Thank you again. I now pray for each of you.

Love,
Nancy Trank

Community News

Births:

On February 16, 2007 **Stephen Michael** and **Hannah Lynn Trank** were born to Mike and Teresa Trank. The twins are the grandchildren of **Larry and Nancy Trank**. Stephen Michael was born at 8:40 AM weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. and 19 ¼ inches long. Hannah Lynn was born at 8:41 AM weighing 6 lbs. 5 ½ oz. and 19 inches long.

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Mom, Dad and babies are doing well.

