

THE PROPHET

Woodside United Methodist Church

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April 2007

FROM THE PASTOR

Matthew 11:11,12 From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

John the Baptist was a unique man of God. In many ways he was kind of like Elijah. Both had great boldness and courage for the Lord. They were both passionate for God and very anointed. Both were willing to stand up to religious leaders and even their kings.

Jesus said of John, "I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. In this he meant that John had the honor of introducing God's only begotten Son to the world. This came at Jesus' baptism.

In John 1:29-34 it says, "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one who comes after me and has surpassed me because he was before me. I myself did not know him, but the reason I come baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.' Then John gave this testimony: 'I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will

baptize with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God." So, you can see why there was none greater than John the Baptist. He had a great honor in being the first to declare Jesus as the Son of God.

But in this act alone, all in are greater. They are greater and we are greater than John the Baptist, because we have received the Son of God into our hearts and lives as Savior, Lord and God. We will be in heaven because of Jesus. Now that John is in heaven, he will be great like all the rest of us.

So, what does this have to do with our passage that says, "From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it."

Both John and Jesus preached that all people should repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. They didn't have a "cuddly, make-me-feel-good" message that stroked our backs and tickled our ears. It was "in your face"--you'd better change your ways and seek God's forgiveness or you're going to hell. They were forceful men, and they were advancing God's kingdom forcefully.

It takes forceful people to lay hold of it as well. The carnal nature screams out, "God, I will live the way I want to live." As a mighty current in a river, this world's passion for self is determined to sweep us away. Only those who are passionate and committed will actually be able to lay hold of their salvation. Because, it takes a person with the same

desperation and determination as a person about to go over a huge waterfall, hanging on to a life preserver. It takes that desperation and determination to keep from giving in to the ways of the world and giving up on Jesus.

Becoming a Christian is not hard to do. STAYING a passionate, committed Christian for eternity is NOT so easy. The good Lord will help us with this, too. He didn't die on Calvary's Cross to save us, only to easily let us go to hell. Jesus loves us too much! We must love HIM, with all our heart, mind, soul, and spirit passionately, even forcefully, in keeping our salvation.

In Christ,
Bro. Poole



Please continue to pray for Loraine Byers, Barb Caldwell, Don & Gayle Highley's daughter Sara, Evelyn Highley, Hazel Lomelino, Ray and Roselyn McHatton, Emmie Pinson, our pastor and his family, our church friends, and their families, service men and women and their families. If there is someone you would like added to the prayer list, please call the church office 529-2736 and let us know.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday 3:00 pm Brenden Gardens

BIBLE STUDY

Monday 10:00 am Brenden Gardens
Tuesday 2:15 pm Mary Bryant Home

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The first Sunday of each month all men of the church are invited to join us for breakfast, prayer, fellowship and discussions in Fellowship Hall from 8:00 am – 9:00 am

UMW MEETING

Fellowship Hall
April 12, 2007 6:30 pm
New Member Potluck –
Special Member Recognition

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

Meets the 3rd Tuesday at 9:30 am

SARAH ELIZABETH CIRCLE

Meet the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm

RUTH CIRCLE

Will meets April 18th, the 3rd Wednesday
12:30 pm @ LaVerda's

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- Apr. 1 Phyllis Hunsaker
- Apr. 4 William Fletcher Sr., Andy Gardner,
Marvin Schultz, Dave Yost
- Apr. 6 Michael Price
- Apr. 19 Peggy Milhouse
- Apr. 24 Eleanor Ewing
- Apr. 25 Hilda Blair
- Apr. 26 Bernice Dermont
- Apr. 27 Pauline Tresso
- Apr. 28 Walter Johnson
- Apr. 29 Rich Barregarye

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Harold "Gene" and Phyllis Skaggs

Don and Rita Taft

Jeff Taft

Charlotte Taft

Stephanie Yencer-Price (reinstated)

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Tom & Jo Gagnon, Barbara Hale, Rod & Pat Heaton, Harriet Osmonson, Phyllis Skaggs

Ushers: Brad Brinkerhoff, Mike Gardner, Conrad Kohlmann, Blake Scranton, Kirk Yenerall

Liturgist: Fred & Kelly Walraven

Communion Stewards:

Acolytes: Falyn Bruce

Fellowship Time: Mary Martha Circle

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

Liturgist:

Fellowship Time: Ruth Circle

April 1

Greeters: Leda Thorpe, Pauline Tresso

Ushers: Bob & Marlene Dawe, Don & Gayle Highley, Dan Shields

Acolytes: Falyn Bruce

Communion Stewards:

April 8

Greeters: Kristen & Zach Ball, Barbara Hale

Ushers: Bob & Marlene Dawe, Don & Gayle Highley, Dan Shields

Acolytes:

April 15

Greeters: Don & Gayle Highley

Ushers: Bob & Marlene Dawe, Don & Gayle Highley, Dan Shields

Acolytes:

Communion Stewards:

April 22

Greeters: Donnah Sharp, Leda Thorpe

Ushers: Bob & Marlene Dawe, Don & Gayle Highley, Dan Shields

Acolytes:

April 29

Greeters: Betty Morse, Harriet Osmonson

Ushers: Bob & Marlene Dawe, Don & Gayle Highley, Dan Shields

Acolytes:

GOOD NEWS

Health & healing is visualized as divine life aglow at the core of my being. Your prayers & support were so appreciated as God's ways unfolded in blessings galore. May our oneness with God give Him all the honor & praise.

Ray & Roselyn

NEWS FROM MISSION COMMITTEE

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center is one of the mission projects that Woodside UMC helps to support. The MMDC will take your old computers as long as they have been made about 2000 or newer. Also they can use keyboards, monitors and the mouse. There is a new program where they recycle inkjet printer cartridges and MMDC gets the cash for them.

They can also use good working sewing machines, even the old treadle machines, bicycles, laptop computers, projector programs, riding lawn mowers or a camper shell (cab high) for a full size truck.

At this time they do not need supplies for flood buckets. They have enough for now depending on weather conditions this spring.

They are in need especially the 70-80 page spiral size notebooks for school packs. They can use material to make these back packs which must be heavy weight material. Or if you want to sew at home they will be glad to give you their patterns to use. I am making hospital gowns and pajamas for them. There is a list of supplies they really need at this time listed on the bulletin board in the hallway. MMDC also helps many areas in the United States as well as many overseas.

If you are interested in what they do please pay them a visit to see for yourself if you have not been there.

Gayle Webb
Mission Committee

LOOKING AHEAD LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Sunday, April 1 Easter Cantata by Woodside Chancel Choir during morning worship.

Thursday, April 5 Maundy Thursday service at 6:00 pm with a potluck to follow.

Friday, April 6 Good Friday service at 6:30 pm.

CLUSTER LENTEN SERVICES

Apr. 1 4:00 pm Grace UMC – Concert
Apr. 8 6:30 am Grace UMC – Sunrise

NEWS FROM UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Thursday, April 12 at 6:30 pm the United Methodist Women’s monthly meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall. This will be the New Member Potluck and Special Member Recognition.

The UMW Executive officers are in charge of the meal and will provide table service, meat, rolls and beverage. Members are asked to each bring a covered dish to share.

We look forward to seeing many of you there for an enjoyable time together.

The Cunningham Children’s Home Festival of Quilts will be held April 20-22 in Urbana, Il. Our UMW unit has voted to send a purchased quilt for the festival.

When you send a quilt to the festival there are four ways in which you can donate:

- 1) Silent Auction donation
- 2) Gift Shop donation
- 3) Quilt Show entry
- 4) Designate your quilt to a child. Our unit has designated our quilt to be given to a child.

DON’T FORGET – SAVE THOSE ITEMS!

UMW Basement Sale Thursday, April 26th 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

It’s that time again!! As you do your spring cleaning remember to save all those unneeded items. Your junk may be someone else’s treasure!

Bring your items to Fellowship Hall by 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 25th. Please be careful not to block the closets or elevator!

Don’t forget to tell all of your friends and neighbors to drop by on April 26th to check out everything we have for sale!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Faithful To God's Call

Woodside UMC Spring Retreat
Will Be Held At
Villa Maria Life Center

Friday Evening May 18th---6:00-9:00pm
Saturday May 19th---8:30-3:00pm

Presided By:
Diane W. Stephens
Adjunct Professor
Garrett Theological Seminary

Watch for Sign-Up Sheet and Further Information

Administrative Council Report

During its March 20, 2007 meeting the Administrative Council heard the following reports and took the following action.

The Administrative Council accepted the February 2007 financial report as presented. The Operating Account had a balance of \$15,749.04 on February 28, 2007, with \$1,492.45 in Accounts Payable.

Golden Cross Sunday will be observed May 6th.

The Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner held March 17th at the church was a huge success. Profit from the dinner is slightly over \$1,000. These proceeds will be used to support Woodside youth in attending a mission trip this summer with Laurel United Methodist Church.

September 29th has been set aside as a work day for members from Woodside at the Midwest Distribution Center. More details will be given later this summer.

September 30th will be Mission Night in conjunction with The Gathering. Representatives from the Midwest Distribution Center will provide the program after the Praise Band plays. Cake and home made ice cream will be served after the program.

The Bishop and the District Superintendent have made a special request for donations to help with the Liberian Mission. The Mission Committee will take a special offering the first Sunday of each month for the purchase of a truck and assistance toward a pastor's salary as part of the Liberian Mission.

A donor has committed to providing a new T.V. and DVD player to the church. The old T.V. does not work properly and is not compatible with a DVD player.

The Maundy Thursday Service will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will include a potluck. Meat will be provided and participants will be asked to provide a covered dish. The Good Friday Service will begin at 6:30 and will include communion. Attendees will be asked to provide special talent for both services.

The Staff/ Pastor Parish Committee will sponsor a Staff Appreciation picnic after worship on Sunday, June 10th to recognize the staff at Woodside.

A Kitchen Renovation Committee has been formed to explore and recommend renovations for the kitchen. If anyone has specific suggestions they are requested to contact the Committee.

Linda Harrod and Bro. Poole are planning a retreat to be held Friday and Saturday, May 18 & 19, at Villa Maria. The Witness/Nurture Committee will be providing light food for both days.

The Witness/Nurture Committee will be holding a Music Appreciation potluck on Sunday, June 3rd after worship to recognize the choir.

The Trustees have completed the light project to replace the old, fluorescent light fixtures in the church. The electrician recommended not reselling the old light fixtures, so they have been thrown away.

The closet project in the ante room off the sanctuary is almost complete. The Trustees are waiting on the molding for the doors, and then the project will be finished.

The elevator has been broken since the second week in March. The Trustees were finally able to secure a company out of St. Louis that was willing to work on our elevator. The motor is burned out, and they will try to locate a new motor. If they are not able to find a new motor they will try to find a rebuilt motor. Once the motor is installed they will be able to determine if there is any damage to the circuit boards. John Morse will report back to the Administrative Council once he is advised of the cost of repairs.

Jane Grizzell made a personal plea about her concern for the children/youth of Woodside, asking that we give prayerful consideration to ways that Woodside can serve the spiritual needs of our children/youth.

A special meeting of the Administrative Council was held Sunday, March 25th to hear a report from

the Trustees on the status of the elevator repair. A new motor has been located and will cost \$1,225 for the motor, labor, and service call. We will not know if there are additional charges for repair to the circuit boards until after the elevator is running. The Administrative Council approved this expenditure.

APRIL OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING!

Lenten Offering An envelope is enclosed for a Lenten Offering. This offering will be used to support the Society of St. Andrew's Potato Project. (see Lenten Offering article in this Prophet)

World Service. Use the Missions offering envelope enclosed in this Prophet to donate to World Service. World Service provides the basic financial resources for the core ministries of our denomination. The essential mission and program ministries of the Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference are also partially funded through the World Service.

Non-perishable

Food products: Kumler Food Pantry now serves 700 people per day. We continually accept non-perishable food products to help them meet their needs. Please place non-perishable food items in the "white box" in the Narthex. We will periodically deliver the food to Kumler

Aluminum cans: Bring empty aluminum cans to the church the first Sunday of each month. Please rinse out and smash cans if possible. Cans may be placed in Dan and Karen Shield's white truck, which will be parked in front of the church with the tailgate down. We receive \$.68 per pound for all of the cans we recycle, and proceeds go to the Kumler Neighborhood Ministries for the purchase of prescriptions.

Prescription containers: Bring prescription containers and place them in the receptacle in Fellowship Hall. Please remove labels first. Periodically the prescription containers will be delivered to Midwest Distribution Center.

Good Samaritan &

Transitions Funds: Donations left at the altar during communion go to the Good Samaritan and Transition Funds at Woodside.

As always, your contributions to the many projects conducted at Woodside are appreciated by the many people that are served. Please continue God's work by supporting those projects that interest you in whatever way you can – with your prayers, service, and gifts.

LENTEN OFFERING

Enclosed in this Prophet you will find an envelope for a Lenten Offering. This offering will be used to support one of Woodside's mission projects, the Society of St. Andrew's Potato Project.

Farmers donate field crops, potatoes and other produce, left after their harvest. The Society of St. Andrew then uses the Biblical idea of gleaning to gather what is left. Thousands of volunteers collect and transport this gleaned produce to food banks and agencies across the nation that feed the poor.

The Society of St. Andrew is a Christian, non-profit, hunger relief ministry working to feed our hungry neighbors here in the United States in Jesus' name. The United Methodist church is one of several denominations that support the Society of St. Andrew whose ministry is simple and cost-effective with administrative and fundraising costs of only 5.9%. They are able to provide a serving of food for about a penny.

At a penny a serving just think what a significant difference Woodside United Methodist Church can make in the lives of the poor. Won't you please give this mission project prayerful consideration and make a donation to help feed the poor.

NOTE OF THANKS

Thanks to the Reyne Pallai family for donating the copy paper to our church.

OUR SYMPATHY

To Bob and Shirley Gruenfelder on the death of Bob's brother-in-law, Dr. James Ansley, age 90, of Mt. Vernon, who passed away January 16, and his sister, Stella Brauer age 87, of Highland who passed away February 5.

GRADUATES

If you know of someone who is graduating from high school or college or graduate school, please give that information to the secretary so that we may honor them.

Norma Brothers will be back in Springfield this coming week from wintering in Florida.

Lois Edge will be back in Springfield this coming week from wintering in Texas.

PROPHET & BULLETIN DEADLINES

The deadline for submitting articles for the Sunday bulletin is Tuesday by 9:00 am. Articles should be submitted in writing or e-mail.

The deadline for submitting articles for the May Prophet will be Wednesday, April 25, @ 9:00 am. Articles must be submitted in writing or e-mail.

Make a
beautiful
Butterfly




The butterfly is a symbol of new life and is often associated with Easter. Make your own butterfly.

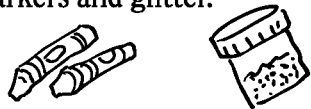
You will need:

- ✿ paper
- ✿ scissors
- ✿ crayons or markers
- ✿ glitter
- ✿ glue



Directions:

1. Fold a piece of paper in half.
2. Draw the outline of half a butterfly on one side of the paper with the middle of the body on the fold.
3. With the paper still folded, cut along the outline.
4. Open the butterfly and decorate it with crayons, markers and glitter.

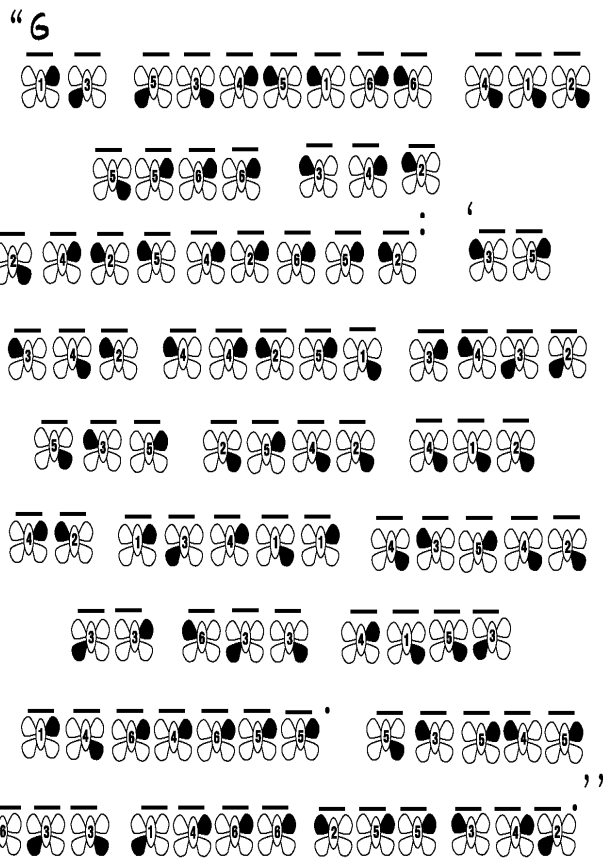



Just for KIDS

The Angel's Message

When Mary and Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb, an angel suddenly appeared before them! He told them not to be afraid and gave them a message for Jesus' disciples.

Use the code to read the message from Matthew 28:7 (NIV).



Answer: "Go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.'"