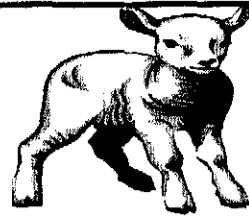


ST. MATTHEW'S BELLWETHER



VOL I ISSUE X

OCTOBER 1999

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them." From Matthew 18 comes this marvelous affirmation from our Lord.

When our daughter, Candice, was born her lungs were not fully developed. One could not tell that at present because God blessed her with a wonderful talent of song. It appeared death would inevitably lay claim to her diminutive and frail body.

The thought of death is always difficult at best, but in the lives of a young couple whose infant child lay just breaths away from heaven, this was frightening. In the midst of our insecurity God began to work in a beautiful way. It was when we were at our lowest an angel of God appeared; a messenger came bringing hope where there seemed to be little. An angel is, after all, a messenger from God. This messenger was in the person of a United Methodist Minister, who had known and had a close relationship with the Patrick family over the years. He had come bearing more than a friendly smile—he brought prayer with him. He suggested that he along with Bett and myself pray for Candice.

The beauty of God and those who serve Him did not end with an Amen following that prayer. The next day, the minister, Reverend John Carter returned and again the three of us prayed for Candice. This continued for the third day and during this particular time I could feel the true presence of God in our midst and I could feel not only God's comfort in our plight, but also God's assurance that whatever the outcome He would always be there.

Too many times we step in trials and fears to the point that we fail to realize God truly yearns to be there for us, to be in our midst. I will forever be reminded how God is wherever we desire Him to be for that is His desire as well.

Larry

SENIOR SENTIMENTS

A very wierd thing has happened. A Strange old lady has moved into my house. I have no idea who she is, where she came from or how she got in. I certainly did not invite her. All I know is that one day she wasn't here and the next day she was.

She is a clever old lady, and manages to keep out of sight for the most part, but whenever I pass a mirror I catch a glimpse of her. And whenever I look into the mirror to check my appearance, there she is, hogging the whole thing, completely obliterating my gorgeous face and body. This is very rude. I have tried screaming at her, but she just screams back.

If she insists on hanging around, the least she could do is offer to pay part of the rent, but no. Every once in a while, I find a dollar bill stuck in a coat pocket or some loose change under a sofa cushion, but it is not nearly enough.

I don't want to jump to conclusions, but I think she is stealing money from me. I go to the ATM and withdraw \$100.00 and a few days later, it's all gone. I certainly don't spend money that fast!

You'd think she would spend some of that money to buy wrinkle cream. Lord knows she needs it. And money isn't the only thing she's stealing. Food seems to disappear at an alarming rate—especially the good stuff like candy, cookies and ice cream. I can't seem to be able to keep that stuff in the house anymore. She must have a real sweet tooth, but she'd better watch it, because she is really packing on the pounds. I suspect she realizes this and to make herself feel better, she is tampering with my scale to make me think I am putting on weight too.

For an old lady, she is quite childish. She likes to play nasty games, like going into my closet when I'm not home and altering my clothes so they don't fit. And she messes with my files and papers so I can't find anything. This is particularly annoying since I am extremely neat and organized. She also fiddles with my VCR so it does not record what I have programmed.

She has found other imaginative ways to annoy me. She gets into my mail, newspapers, and magazines before I do and blurs the print so I can't read it. And, she has done something really sinister to the volume controls on my TV, radio and telephone. Now all I hear are whispers and mumbles.

She has done other things, like make my stairs steeper, my vacuum cleaner heavier and all my knobs and faucets harder to turn. She even made my bed higher so that getting into and out of it is a real challenge. Lately, she has been fooling with my groceries before I put them away, applying glue to the lids, making it almost impossible for me to open the jars. Is this anyway to repay my hospitality? (CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)





Vacations are over and our regular daily workers are back and looking forward to 1999 ending and a greater 2000.

Have you noticed the new look in the Sanctuary done by your Thrift Shop? We have new pews, a new look on the divider wall and new lighting as they arrive. Approximate cost \$4500.00 to \$5000.00 It gives the Narthex a more inviting look. Let's all take care of it.

We are still in need of your donations such as clothing, toys, kitchenware or anything else you might like to donate. Our space is limited for large items, so please contact us before bringing them in.

Thanks for your continued support.

Eva Smith
Thrift Shop Committee



CHURCH-WIDE BABY SHOWER

There will be a Church-Wide Floating Baby Shower for Cynthia and Vince Lindenmeyer on Sunday, October 10th from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. They are registered at TARGETS. (Word out is that this bundle from Heaven is a GIRL).

For more information contact Gail Terwilliger or Adella Pray.

UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS:

On September 19th, the United Methodist Men gathered for their regular monthly fellowship breakfast. After a wonderful meal, which was served by Matt Jamison and Jack Spakes the meeting was called to order by our President, Troy Willoughby.

The United Methodist Men received a request for a donation to the Scholarship Fund and approved \$250.00. They also made plans for a clean-up day to help get the church grounds ready for Homecoming.

As a reminder, the United Methodist Men's Barbeque and Chicken Sale will be held on October 15th during the Annual Bazaar. We still need volunteers to help with this event. If you would like to help, please let us know.

Ken Manship,
UMM Secretary

YOUTH NEWS

This month the youth are planning their annual LOCK-IN. The final date has not been decided, but it will most likely be held on October 29th.

We are also planning to do a HELP WALK on October 10th. The Fayetteville Urban Ministries is in charge of this. Some of our youth are planning to participate. If you would like to sponsor a youth or participate, please see a youth member or Leigh Thomson. Any donation would be very much appreciated. The donations are also tax deductible.

Yours in Christ,

Meghann Dominic,
UMYF Secretary

ATTENTION!

St. Matthew's is so blessed to have so many Lay People that go the extra mile in promoting the ministry of Jesus Christ our Lord. However, we need to select one Lay Person of the Year to represent St. Matthew's at the Lay Rally.

Please submit your nominee to Roberta Brown by October 10th.

Thank you!

RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE NEWS

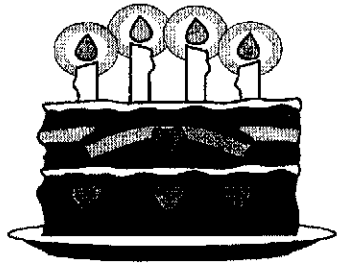
The Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle will meet on October 13th at 10:30 a.m. Our annual BAZAAR will be held October 15th from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Let's make it one of our best! See you soon.

Lola Smith,
Chairperson



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS-

4 Shirley Dominie
5 Chelsea Hildreth
9 Jonathan Hargraves
10 Dorothy Brackett
12 Mary Rozier
Ruth Caldwell
14 Robin Lewis
John Williams
15 Frank Bagley
17 Betty Probst
Darren Snyder
19 Emma Spidle
22 Betty Gray
23 Lori Montague
26 Lee Anna Sproul
27 Amanda Hughes
Rebecca Parker
30 Heidi Snyder



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

ONE-BY-ONE TUTORING:

"Do unto others..." The Golden Rule that Christ gave to us is working a miracle at St. Matthew's! You said your prayers, you searched your souls, and you accepted God's challenge. Thanks to all of you who have helped to meet the needs of our church and our community. ONE-BY-ONE is FULL! We have no more space.

There are many more people who need us, and there are more of you willing to give of your time and your talents. The Lord will bless all who are involved and those who want to be. God has packed this church, but He certainly has not closed the door on ONE-BY-ONE. We have grown, and somehow, we will continue to grow. The work of the Lord will never be finished.

My prayer for all of you is that you feel the Holy Spirit at work! You are blessed! My heart and my soul have been touched beyond belief. AMEN!!!

Thank you all in the name of Christ,
Amy Eberhardt (425-5115)

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

DONATIONS GIVEN TO:

- ◆ Emergency Fund in memory of Betty Huffman & Annie Rue Hill. by Paul & Jewel Sharpe, and in memory of Betty Huffman by Hank & Betty Zielinski.
- ◆ Emergency Fund by the Boyd Snyder Class, The Thrift Shop, Gertrude Schultz, Vince & Cynthia Lindenmeyer & The Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle.
- ◆ Emergency Fund in honor of Joann Terrier's birthday (9-6-99) by her Secret Prayer Partner and in honor of Betty Zielinski's birthday (9-22-99) by her Secret Pal.
- ◆ Conference Apportionment by the 5th & 6th Grade Class.
- ◆ The Food Pantry by Dee Parker & Hazel Owen.
- ◆ Card Ministry by Hazel Owen.
- ◆ Maintenance Fund in memory of Sadie Willoughby & Betty Huffman.
- ◆ St. Matthew's Budget in memory of Betty Huffman from Irma Evans, J.P. Huffman, Robert & Janice Loiselle, Charles & Ruby Lucas, Thomas & Bonetta McLamb, Cliff & Catherine Morgan, Calvin & Sara Robinson, Martina Maine, James Mellon, James Co. Sales Dept. & National Accounts Dept., PetsMart, Davis & Davis Insurance & Realty, David & Jolene Harden, Karen Ogden & Ruth Caldwell.
- ◆ Music Fund in memory of Betty Huffman by the Peggy Pullman Class.
- ◆ Power Bill by the Thrift Shop.
- ◆ St. Matthew's from the Montclair Home Extensions Club.
- ◆ One-By-One Tutoring in honor of Sam & Glyndetta Hubbard's Anniversary by Glyndetta's Secret Prayer Partner.
- ◆ One-By-One Tutoring very lovingly by the St. Matthew's Thrift Shop.

SENIOR SENTIMENTS CONTINUED:

She has taken the fun out of shopping for clothes. When I try something on, she stands there in front of the mirror and monopolizes the whole thing.

Just when I thought she couldn't get any meaner, she proved me wrong. She came along when I went to get my picture taken for my driver's license and just as the camera shutter clicked, she jumped in front of me. No one is going to believe that the picture of the old lady is me.

(Laughter is good for the soul!)

Eva Smith,
Adult Coordinator



ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Well, here we go again. Time to gear up for our "Big" day this month - our Fall Bazaar. There will be a sign-up sheet available for you to add your name as to when you would like to work during the hours of the bazaar. Our bazaar is only one day this year - Friday, October 15th from 8:00am -8:00pm. We will have a Christmas Room, Crafts Room, White Elephant Room, Baked Goods Area and a Hotdog lunch plate. We also have tickets available for the Hand-made Quilt and the Porcelain Doll that will be given away to the lucky person who bought a ticket. Tickets are available from your Circle Leaders; please get tickets and sell as many as you can - more profit to our unit. If you have not committed to baking any goodies, please call your Circle Leader and let her know what you plan to bake. Also, we would like for all church ladies to bake a goody if they would - so if you hear someone say they will bake us something - take that name and turn it in to your Circle Leader.

Remember, October 4th will be our *covered dish General meeting*, please plan to attend. We will elect our new officers from this list of nominations and those that might be made from the floor that evening: **President - Betty Patrick, Vice-President - Dorothy Taylor, Secretary - Glyn-detta Hubbard, Treasurer - Joann Terrier, Communications - Amy Eberhardt.** A complete listing of Circle Officers will be posted in the next newsletter.

We will make our pledges for the new year in this October meeting in order for the committee to draft the budget for 2000. You *will not pay any money* on this pledge until January 2000.

Also, our **Annual Meeting is this month at Methodist College** and the Rockfish Outdoor Center has invited us to attend the open house of the **Bergland Center on October 9th at 3:00pm.**

Since the preacher was in the hospital last week, I have gotten behind in all my work - church & school! I have much more information to tell you, but at the time I am writing this article, I don't have the information before me to make sure of dates and facts. You will have to come to the **General Meeting on October 4th at 7:00pm** to hear the rest of the story.

We will again support the **Shoebox Christmas Mission**; I will hand out guidelines for this project at the General Meeting. You may prepare your gift as early as you wish and a container for collection will be in the church by October 31st to receive your package. Get going on this project and finish before the holidays get you in a hurry.

I hope everyone is trying these easy recipes for much good eating!!! This month's recipe is that great recipe from Betty Jennings. Everyone loves this casserole and now you have the recipe.

I'll see you at the General Meeting.

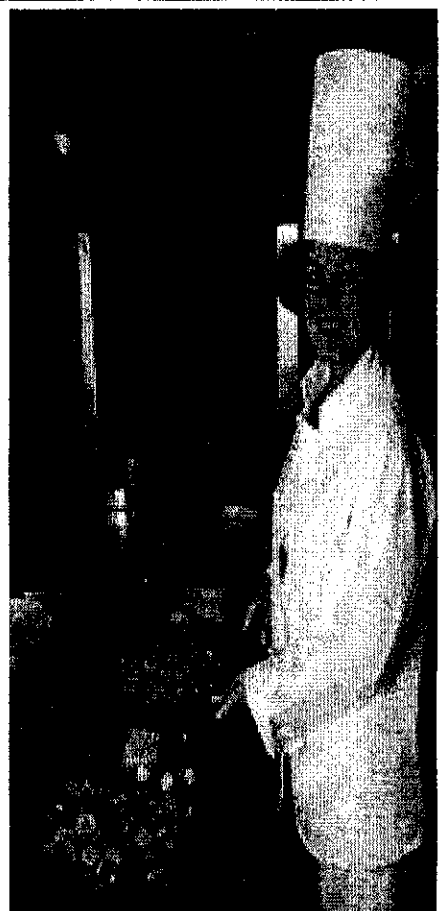
Your UMW President,
Betty Patrick

CHICKEN CASSEROLE

3 Chicken Breast (skinless & boneless)
1 Can Cream of Celery or Cream of Chicken Soup
2/3 Cup of Sour Cream
1 Box of Stove Top Stuffing (Chicken)
Onions & Celery

1. Cook Chicken Breast until tender. Pull apart & spread in 13 X 9 inch baking dish.
2. Mix Soup & Sour Cream & spread over chicken
3. Fix stuffing mix by directions on box, adding cooked onions & celery. Spread over top.
4. Bake at 375 degrees for 35 minutes.

Submitted by Betty Jennings



OCTOBER

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1999

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Grace UMM & UMW-8:00 am Church Auction - 5:00 pm
3 UMYF-4pm Nominations & Personnel Committee - 4pm Grace UMYF-5pm	4 United Methodist Women-7pm (Covered dish) One-By-One-7pm	5 Prayer Mtg.-7pm Vision Team-7:30pm	6 Card Ministry-5:00pm WNA Classes-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	7 Admin. Bd. Mtg.-7pm Grace Bible Study-7pm	8 Hall Wedding Rehearsal-6pm	9 Hall Wedding-1pm Rockfish Outdoor Center Open House (Bergland Center)-3:00 pm at Camp Rockfish
10 Baby Shower for Cynthia Lindenmeyer-2:30pm UMYF-4pm Grace UMYF-5pm	11 Pastor at One-By-One-7pm	12 Duke Convocation Prayer Mtg.-7pm	13 Ruth-E. Smith Circle-10:30am Card Ministry-5:00pm WNA Classes-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	14 Grace Bible Study-7pm	15 Bazaar - 8am-8pm Barbecue & Chicken Dinner Sale & Crafts	16 23 Grace Pancake Breakfast & Yard Sale-7:00am
17 Laity Sunday UMMM Breakfast-7:30am UMYF-4pm Grace UMYF-5pm	18 One-By-One-7pm	19 Charge Conference - 7:00pm	20 Card Ministry-5:00pm WNA Classes-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	21 Grace Bible Study-7pm	22	29
24 Daylight Savings Time Ends UMYF-4pm Grace UMYF-5PM	25 Pastor at Bishops Day Apart	26 Prayer Mtg.-7pm	27 Card Ministry-5:00pm WNA Classes-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	28 Help-N Hands-11:00am	29	30
31 Reformation Day UMYF-4pm Grace UMYF-5pm						

EVERY SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:30AM EARLY WORSHIP SERVICE (NO) NURSERY PROVIDED

9:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (ALL AGES)

11:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE (NURSERY PROVIDED)