



Meriden Messenger

Meriden United Methodist Church

March 2011

ADAM HAMILTON

24 Hours That Changed the World

Join us as we retrace the steps of Jesus on his final day, in this powerful study by Adam Hamilton

- The Last Supper
- The Garden of Gethsemane
- Condemned by the Righteous
- Jesus, Barabbas, and Pilate
- The Torture and Humiliation of the King
- The Crucifixion
- Christ the Victor

Starting March 13th

Meriden United Methodist Church

www.meridenumc.org / mumchurch@embarqmail.com

SPECIAL PROGRAM! WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US!



I have two things on my mind as I write this article for March. One may be obvious. I love basketball as does most of our congregation. (Blue/Red or Purple teams are particularly popular at MUMC.) It's getting to be crunch time as the basketball season is winding down: assessing your favorite team's chances with the rankings and brackets to soon be determined.

This year a brand new joy for our MUMC community will be experienced Sunday, February 27th, when we host our first Annual Basketball Sunday's worship and meal event. We celebrate the Jefferson West community of children, adults, and coaches who participated in teaching basketball skills, the love of the game, and the love of God under one umbrella. We know properly coached sports can teach us so many important fundamental principles about life: attitude, effort, determination, preparation, and good sportsmanship to name just a few. When we combine those sports principals with the love and teaching of our role model and savior Jesus Christ, we get an unbeatable combination. Go God!

Another joy on my mind is also a March big event, a rush season that starts Wednesday, the 9th. That is Ash Wednesday when the season of Easter preparation begins. Sunday, March 13th begins our Lenten sermons based on Rev. Adam Hamilton's work "24 Hours That Changed the World." We are going to take an in-depth look at what

Burrito Time!

The High School and Middle School Youth Groups are selling burritos starting February 16th through March 13th. We are rolling burritos on March 19th.



The youth are raising funds to go to the Youth 2011, which is the national youth gathering for the United Methodist Church. It is an event that only happens every four years and is the largest single gathering of UMC youth in existence. This four-day conference will bring together top United Methodist leaders as well as the best ecumenical speakers, bands and talent with thousands of youth from all around the nation for what is sure to be a life-changing event!

The dates of the conference are July 13th through July 17th. We will travel on a charter bus with the Kansas East Conference youth.

Any youth wanting to go can contact Don Schaeffer or Pam Farrant for more information. The deadline is April 1, 2011 to register.

KS East/West Walking Challenge

Keep filling out those forms! We're doing great! Everyone, at any age, is encouraged to submit their miles walked each week. 2000 steps = 1 mile. 15 minutes of moderate aerobic exercise also equals 1 mile. Forms can be found at the back of the sanctuary. Fill one out each week and put them in the basket provided. You can also email the church secretary your mileage each week.

AARP Income Tax Assistance Program

AARP is providing free tax help to low and middle income taxpayers of all ages in Jefferson County with special attention to those 60 years of age or older.



Volunteers will be available at the Little Red Barn located just west of the JCSO office at 410 Liberty in Oskaloosa every Friday afternoon from noon till 4 p.m. starting Friday February 4 through April 15. Use of the Barn is provided courtesy of the Center Place Board of Directors.

Bring the following information with you to the appointment including Social Security cards for yourself and your dependents: last years tax returns: all income statements including W-2 forms , 1099 and 1098 forms and Social Security Benefit payments; child and dependent care information; County property tax statement(s) and proof of payment; alimony; if a renter, name, address and phone number of landlord(s) and amount of rent paid and all receipts and cancelled checks for those who wish to itemize deductions.

Although your income level may not require you to file a Kansas return, one should file to claim the Food Sales Tax credit, Homestead exemption or Property Tax Relief. At the Federal level, one might be eligible for make work pay or earned income credit.

An AARP tax aid cannot handle form 1040F for farmers or any return that can claim depreciation. They can handle a small business with less than \$10,000 in expenses. If filing a joint return, it would be desirable if both spouses could come to the appointment. Bring a checkbook if you wish to direct deposit refunds. Call (785) 863-2637 for an appointment.

transpired, seeing several video clips of the Holy Land where tradition places the actual events. We'll look into the 1st Century world of Jesus and his disciples and in the process discover new meaning for our lives today. Come and investigate for yourself the first Easter.

So what do we say about 2011 March Madness? All God's people say, "Bring it on!" (or Amen!)

Proverbs 22:6 NRSV "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray."

FYI: www.meridenumc.org was viewed 649 times in January and 541 times-to-date in February. We now have 73 who "Like" our MUMC Facebook page!



Lenten Fish Fry March 11th and March 18th 5:00 - 7:30pm

We've stocked up on fish from the Fishing Tournament held last fall and now it's time to fry it up and serve it to the community! This will be a freewill donation and is open to everyone. Proceeds will go to upgrading appliances in the kitchen and furniture in the classrooms.

Sign up sheets are on the landing to volunteer to work and/or to bring side dishes and desserts. Sign up to help and bring your family and friends for some tasty fish during Lent!

March News

We have started working on our Easter Cantata, "JESUS the One and Only." There is still plenty of time for you to join us. We will be performing this on Palm Sunday (April 17, 2011). Circle the date and plan to attend. We would love to have you!



This Cantata will help us celebrate the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Come and make that Joyful Noise with us!

***Keep Singing,
Claudia***

UMW Meeting

Thursday, March 3rd at 6:30pm

The United Methodist Women will meet on Thursday, March 3rd at 6:30pm for a potluck and program. Janice Schaeffer will be in charge of the program. All the women in the church are invited.



Mission Statement

"We share God's love through: committed worship and open fellowship; nurturing all to be ever better disciples of Jesus Christ; serving others from what God has given us."



Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to deliver meals on wheels for the Meriden Northeast route - one for full time on Fridays and substitutes. Call Dee Casey at (785) 484-2734 for more information or to volunteer!



Open Prayer Time in Sanctuary *Fridays Noon-1:00 pm*



Any and all are welcome to join Pastor Bruce in praying for the physical and spiritual health of the congregation, for the direction of the congregation, and for anything else on your hearts.

Awake, thou wintry earth -

Fling off thy sadness!

Fair vernal flowers, laugh forth

Your ancient gladness!

~Thomas Blackburn



Vision Statement

"Sharing God's love within our community and into the world community."



Looking Ahead to April...

Here are some upcoming events in April you might want to remember...

- Tuesday, April 12th and 26th the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging will meet at 10:00am.
- On Wednesday, April 13th, the Senior Luncheon will begin at 12:00pm.
- On Sunday, April 10th the Outreach and Trustee Committees will meet after worship services.
- On Sunday, April 17th, the Administrative Council will meet at noon, after the potluck. The Choir will also perform the Easter Cantata on this date.
- On Monday, April 18th, the Men's Breakfast will be served at 8:30am.



The Women's Exercise Group meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00am to 10:00am.

Youth Groups meet every Wednesday at 6:00pm and Choir has practice every Wednesday at 7:00pm.

Please check out our online calendar at www.meridenumc.org to see all of the activities going on at our church in March and beyond!

March Birthdays

3/01	Kelly St. John	3/18	Shirley Ketchem
3/02	Enid Eichenberger	3/19	Derrick Mahoney
3/03	Nicole Feyh	3/19	Jeffrey Lolly
3/04	Charisse Powell	3/21	Richard Rogers
3/05	Sophie Jones	3/21	Laci Heller
3/05	Allyson Scott	3/23	Daniel Anderson
3/05	Brianna Fritzsche	3/23	Gary Hazelton
3/06	Joyce Fleeker	3/24	Justin Pollom
3/12	Les Grose	3/24	Brad Clark
3/16	Sherri Heald	3/25	Susan Welborn
3/16	Jerricho Graham	3/26	Tanner Hunt

March Anniversaries

03/22 Daniel and Dawn Chase



To add birthdays and anniversaries please notify the church office.



Coffee with the Pastor

Every 4th Sunday after church, please join the Pastor for coffee and chat with him if you are interested in joining the Meriden UMC or have questions about baptism. If you know of anyone who is thinking about baptism or becoming a member of our congregation, please encourage them to attend "Coffee with the Pastor."

Sunday School

We have classes for 3-4 year olds, Kindergarten-1st grades, 2nd-3rd grades, 4th-5th grades, 6th-8th grades, and high school. Our classrooms have been renovated with lots of color! Sunday School is from 9:00 to 9:45. Come join us and bring a friend!



Children's classes:

- Pre-K – 6th grade meet in the basement of the church
- High School meets in the conference room
- Middle School meets in the SW Sunday School area

Adult classes:

- “First Place 4 Health” meets in the parsonage.
- “Growing in Faith” meets in the gym.

Nursery is available during worship for 0–5 years of age.

Date	Greeters	Liturgist	Ushers
Mar 6th	Lonnie White Lise' White	Pat Welborn	Lonnie White Lise' White Pat Welborn
Mar 13th	UMW Members	Susan Welborn	UMW Members Susan Welborn
Mar 20th	Mitch Wulfekoetter Blanche Wulfekoetter	Jeanne Kessler	Mitch Wulfekoetter Blanche Wulfekoetter
Mar 27th	Rick Anderson Laura Anderson	David Leffingwell	Rick Anderson Laura Anderson



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Confirmation 1 Y Groups 10pm Choir	3 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 6:30pm UMW Mtg 8:00pm Volleyball	4 12:00pm Open Prayer Time 6:30pm Boy Scouts	5 Quilter's Group
9 10pm Senior Luncheon Confirmation 12:00pm Ash Lay Service 1 Y Groups 10pm Choir	10 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 8:00pm Volleyball	11 12:00pm Open Prayer Time 6:30pm Lenten Fish Fry	12
16 Confirmation 1 Y Groups 11am Worship 10pm Choir	17 9:00am Women's Exercise Group	18 12:00pm Open Prayer Time 6:30pm Lenten Fish Fry 6:30pm Boy Scouts	19 Burrito Rolling
23 Confirmation 1 Y Groups	24 9:00am Women's Exercise Group	25 12:00pm Open Prayer Time Newsletter Deadline	26
30 Confirmation 1 Y Groups 10pm Choir	31 9:00am Women's Exercise Group Fold/Mail Newsletter	For a full view of the calendar including what parts of the church are being utilized, please visit us at www.meridenumc.org and click on Church Calendar. Then click on the event for locations and times.	



March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wedn
9:00am: Sunday School 9:45am: Welcoming Time 10:00am: Worship Service 11:00am: Fellowship Time		1 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 5:00pm Boy Scouts	4:00pm C 6:00pr 7:C
Communion 6 11:15am Staff Parish 1:30pm Disciple I	7 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	8 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 10:00am Jayhawk Area Agency 5:00pm Boy Scouts	Ash Wedn 12:0C 4:00pm C 6 Wednesd 6:00pr 7:C
Choir 13 11:15am Outreach 11:15am Trustees 1:30pm Disciple I	14 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	15 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 5:00pm Boy Scouts	4:00pm C 6:00pr 6:00p 7:C
Potluck 20 12:00pm Ad Council 1:30pm Disciple I	21 8:30am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	22 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 10:00am Jayhawk Area Agency 5:00pm Boy Scouts	4:00pm C 6:00pr
Choir 27 11:00am Coffee with the Pastor 1:30pm Disciple I	28 5:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Volleyball	29 9:00am Women's Exercise Group 5:00pm Boy Scouts	4:00pm C 6:00pr 7:C



24 Hours That Changed the World

Walk with Jesus on his final day.
 Sit beside him at the Last Supper.
 Pray with him in Gethsemane.
 Follow him to the cross.
 Desert him. Deny him.

Experience the Resurrection.

Beginning March 13, 2011 and ending on Easter, our church will offer a seven-week sermon series you won't want to miss: "24 Hours That Changed the World." This series, based on the work of Rev. Adam Hamilton, will guide you through the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. The series is designed to help you experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you never have before. Whether you are a long-time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you are invited to join us on this inspiring journey.

As part of this event, we will be making an extra effort to invite members of the surrounding community to participate. "Since the final 24 hours of Jesus' life are so central to our faith, we will be making a special effort to invite people in the community to join us," stated John Corum, MUMC Lay Leader. "A Sunday School class will be formed to welcome our guests, and we are asking members of the congregation to invite neighbors and friends."

For more information about this special event and how you can participate, please contact MUMC at (785) 484-2224 or mumchurch@embarqmail.com.