

BELL'S MESSENGER



The Newsletter of
Old Union United Methodist Church
& Surrounding Community



August 2012

Issue 8, Volume 1

Pastor Phone Number & Address

Rev. Nancy Krall address is 7006 Kingston Road, Thomasville. Her cell number which she will use as the office phone is (336) 414-4224. Her email address is nancykrall@triad.rr.com.

Welcome Home Covered Dish For Dustin Spillman

A Welcome Home Covered Dish for Dustin Spillman will be Sunday, August 5 right after church.

Chelsea Davis & Dalton Spillman Wedding

Chelsea Davis and Dalton Spillman will be getting married on Saturday, August 11 at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. Reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Back to School Party

The Back to School Party will be Sunday, August 12th from 4 pm – until. There will be Games, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Homemade Ice Cream. This is Free to everyone and to the Whole Community. There is a Sign-up Sheet to make Homemade Ice Cream on the Bulletin Board.

Adult Class Hamburger Steak Meal for Keith

The Adult Sunday School Class will have a Hamburger Steak meal for Keith on Sunday, August 26th after Church. Menu: Hamburger Steak, Baked Potato, Salad, Dessert and Drink. Price is Donation

Christmas in July Vacation Bible School

I would like to thank everyone that helped in anyway the weekend of Vacation Bible School. We had 43 kids at sometime that weekend.

History of Old Union UMC Trivia Question

July's Question: What does the S & D in the S & D Singers Stand for?

Answer: Shirley Hall & Debbie Hill

August's Question: When was the last time we did a Church Directory?

(Answer will be in September Bell's Messenger)

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women are excited to say we had a good month. August we don't meet so enjoy your month off.

We will meet Tuesday, September 4 at Sir Pizza in Randleman at 6:30 pm. We will talk about New and Old Business and Chelsea's baby shower.

Ladies we need to keep the November Country Buffet and Auction in mind and will talk about it at the September meeting.

Please all ladies come join us in doing Christ's work.

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men did not have a meeting in July. We did have a call meeting and decided not to have the Golf Tournament that was scheduled for Saturday, October 6. The next meeting will be Sunday, August 26 at 7 am in the Fellowship Hall.

The next Country Breakfast will be Saturday, September 22.

United Methodist Youth Ministry

The United Methodist Youth Ministry met Sunday, July 15th at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We had 14 people at the meeting. We decided to help take out trash, clean tables and serve beverages and Keith's benefit in October.

We are working on when the meeting will be in August which could possibly be a trip. As I know more information I will let everyone know.

We are continuing to sell the Rada Knives etc. If you would like to purchase see any of the Youth Ministry members.

Missing You Mission

Please remember that if there is any person that you have noticed that is not at church and would like a card sent to them, please write their name on paper provided in the pews and give them to Linda Byrd or place them in the offering plate.

Directory Pictures

Pictures will be taken for our new Directory on Friday, September 7 and Saturday, September 8, which is Homecoming weekend. The times are on Friday from 3pm until 9 pm and on Saturday from 10 am until 1pm or maybe a little longer.

Appointments will be made on Sundays, August 12th, 19th and 26th before church or during Sunday School. After Sunday, August 26th there will be a number to call to make an appointment.

226th Homecoming

The 226th Homecoming of Old Union UMC will be Sunday, September 9th, 2012. We will have Sunday School at 9:45 am then Worship Service at 11 am. There will be Covered Dish meal in the Fellowship Hall following Worship Service. There will be a singing at 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Rev. Donnie Durham is scheduled to speak at the 11 am Worship Service.

Keith Auman Hamburger Steak Meal Benefit

There will be a Hamburger Steak Meal Benefit on Saturday, October 20th from 11 am until 7 pm at Old Union UMC Fellowship Hall for Keith Auman. It is being given by Old Union, Fairview and Fairfield United Methodist Churches.

Menu: Hamburger Steak, Baked Potato, House Salad, Dessert, Roll and Tea, Coffee or Water. Take outs will be available but there will not be any drinks with take outs. The price will be Donations.

There will be a Silent Auction from 11 am until 7 pm. Then there will be a Live Auction starting at 7 pm.

It has been decided that each church will only have 2 representatives to go out in the community and get Auction Items. The representatives for Old Union are Jennie Frazier and Jeffrey Smith and they will be covering the Sophia, Level Cross, Randleman, Asheboro and Seagrove areas. Fairview will cover the Trinity and Thomasville area and Fairfield will cover the High Point and Greensboro area.

There will also be 2 different Raffles being held. The first one there will only be 300 Tickets sold and they will be \$10 Each the prizes are 1st Prize: Winchester Model 1500 12 gauge 2 3/4" – 3" Rifled Barrel Deer Slug with Cloth Case and 2nd Prize: 2 NC Concealed to Carry Gun Classes. The second Raffle is unlimited Tickets will be sold and they are \$1 for 1 or 6 for \$5 and the prizes for it are 1st Prize: Deer Shoulder

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Mount, 2nd Prize: \$100 Wal-Mart Gift Certificate, Other Prizes: Assorted Theme Baskets. Both of these Raffles you do not have to be present to win.

Each church has a contact person and the contact for Old Union is Jeffrey Smith. The next meeting for the benefit will be Monday, August 13th at 7 pm at Old Union Fellowship Hall.

Starting after the next meeting we will have sign up sheets to work at the benefit.

Keith Auman's View as published in the News and Record Monday, July 30

Pastor Keith Auman has trouble recalling the Lord's Prayer.

"Once in a while I can remember the whole thing," said Auman, 56. "Some of the time, I'll get the lines jumbled up. Sometimes, I just forget whole pieces of it."

It's just one effect of a series of health crises Auman suffered earlier this year — crises that took him to the brink of death.

"It's kind of opened my eyes to ... suffering and how people react to it very differently," he said last week at his home, his wife, Debi, by his side. "I think I'll probably be much more empathetic cause it's scary. It hurts. It's frustrating, and I don't think I realized the depth of that before."

Auman received his calling late in life. He returned to school in his mid-40s to become a pastor.

In late January, he was less than a year away from completing his probationary period to become ordained in the United Methodist Church.

With the holidays behind them, Auman and his fellow pastors set off on a spiritual retreat to Myrtle Beach for a little fellowship and golf.

When Auman returned home, he noticed a sharp pain in his foot.

"It moved from my right foot up to my left arm," Auman said. "I hadn't ever felt pain like that before."

His fingers and hands were covered in dark splotches. A trip to High Point Regional's emergency room ruled out a heart attack, but blood work later revealed Auman had contracted a bacterial infection that destroyed his aortic valve.

He underwent open-heart surgery to replace the valve but became sick again soon after returning home. Auman was vomiting, complained of a horrible headache and eventually collapsed. Debi Auman called an ambulance to take him back to the emergency room.

Doctors found he'd suffered an aneurysm caused by a second bacterial infection contracted during the heart surgery, his wife said. His heart stopped beating at one point while he was in the hospital.

Emergency workers immediately took Auman to Forsyth Medical Center, where he

underwent a 12-hour surgery to close off the aneurysm, essentially stopping the blood flow to it.

It was Good Friday.

Debi Auman arrived at the hospital at 9 a.m. on Easter. Doctors told her to call the rest of Auman's family.

He had suffered a stroke, was having seizures and his temperature had risen.

"He (the doctor) said, 'Do you remember everything bad I told you could happen?'" Debi Auman recalled. "And I said, 'Yes.' And he said, 'It's happened.'

"So, we spent all day Easter praying."

For 21 days, Debi Auman was on edge.

The problems Auman suffered Easter could return anytime within that period, and some of them did. She kept watch over her husband from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., when the couple's son, Andrew, would come to relieve her.

Auman couldn't get out of bed without a nurse's help.

He was paranoid and confused.

Auman told the staff odd tales of having been in Vietnam and South America.

He would text Andrew, saying his son had left him in Atlanta.

"You wouldn't believe some of the places that I went when I was in that hospital," Auman said jokingly.

Auman has gotten stronger in some ways since he's been home.

"Physically, he's rocking," Debi Auman said. "We had a goal of getting to walking three

miles in the morning, and he now does 3.2 because he's competitive and had to beat the goal.

"But the memory is hard."

At his follow-up appointments, doctors and nurses greeted him with, "Hey, it's the miracle man!"

"I didn't have a clue what they were talking about," Auman said.

"You didn't have a clue who they were, either!" his wife said.

Auman recalls events such as his wedding day. He knows his immediate family members.

"I recognize faces, especially of some of my church members," Auman said. "And their name just has gone away."

Auman's lifelong friend, Libby Myers, said the new Auman is much quieter. He was always a talker.

"He's a very charismatic person, and I guess that's the part that ... you want to see again from him, you know?" Myers said.

just how quiet her husband had become while driving to and from his doctor appointments.

"One day I looked at him and I said, 'You're not singing anymore. You always sing in the car.'"

"He said, 'I don't know the words.'"

As a pastor, Auman spent his days visiting church members who were in hospitals and nursing homes.

Now, he's on the sick and shut-in list.

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He's on a year's leave from the church, the time doctors say it'll take him to get back to his old self. An interim pastor has taken over duties at his churches, Old Union United Methodist in Sophia and Fairview United Methodist in Trinity.

He can't even attend church.

Doctors have advised him to stay away from crowds and not overstimulate himself.

But the church hasn't forgotten him.

There have been food deliveries, phone calls and visits.

Men from the church where Auman grew up, Fairfield United Methodist in High Point, have shown up at the house weekly to mow the lawn.

That same church is hosting a fundraiser next month to help with his medical costs.

Auman is not preaching, and Debi Auman had to give up her job, which required frequent travel, to care for him.

The couple is living off their savings.

Myers said the church wanted to help Auman "because we love him," she said. "He's part of us."

Among Auman's short-term goals is to be more patient.

Doctors recently gave him the OK to drive again. He's only supposed to drive to nearby

places, such as the grocery store. But he's cheated by driving to the library.

He was nervous while doing so, and that was a wake-up call.

"I just realized ... I'm not as ready as I thought I was," Auman said.

Eventually, he wants to finish the process he started and become ordained.

In the meantime, he's regaining some of the little things that meant so much to him, such as the words to the Christian rock songs he likes, and the Lord's Prayer. Practice and repetition help, he said.

And he's holding on to the faith that he said sustained him during perhaps the worst ordeal of his life.

"It shook my faith, but it didn't kill it," Auman said. "So that's what has carried me through. I just have to work on strengthening it back to where it was."

The missions and outreach committee at Fairfield United Methodist Church is sponsoring a Super Salad Supper Aug. 11, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the church, 1505 N.C. 62 West in High Point.

There will be several varieties of salads, including potato, chicken, fruit, bean, pasta and tossed. Desserts will also be served.

Donations will be accepted as admission. Proceeds will benefit Keith Auman. For more information, call the church at 431-5743.



Regular Scheduled Board Meetings

Sunday, October 7 at 2:00 pm

Shut Ins Addresses

Ted Bame
1333 Commonwealth Road
Randleman, NC 27317

Mabel Farlow
5080 Walker Mill Road
Sophia, NC 27350

Church Cleaning Schedule

August:

We need someone to volunteer for
August Please.

September: Burt & Michelle Blakely

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please forgive me if your Birthday or
Anniversary has not been included in the
Newsletter. I only publish the ones that I
have been given. If you would like yours to
be included please give all your family's
birthdays and anniversary on an index card
or piece of paper. Thanks.

Birthdays

August:

8/1: Dustin Spillman
8/11: Bill Case
8/17: Tucker Case
8/31: D.W. Coggins

September:

9/2: Jonathan Stinnett
9/9: Beverly Spillman
9/14: Lane Frazier
9/19: Ruth Haynes
9/30: Sandy Stutts

Anniversaries

August:

8/2: Chris & Abby Stinnett
8/4: D.W. & Debbie Coggins
8/31: Gene & Mary Farlow

September:

9/24: Seth & Kelli Smith

Newsletter Submissions

Please have all newsletter
submissions for the August edition of the
Bell's Messenger to me by Sunday, August
26. Remember my email is
jws13@northstate.net .

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Christmas in July Vacation Bible School



