

BELL'S MESSENGER



The Newsletter of
**Old Union United Methodist Church
& Surrounding Community**



September 2013

Issue 9, Volume 2

Old Union UMC 227th Homecoming

The 227th Homecoming for Old Union United Methodist Church will be Sunday, September 7th. Rev. Jake Brady will be speaking since Lanny Lancaster will not be able to attend.

As in years past we will go to the Cemetery for the benediction of Worship Service followed by a Covered Dish Meal in the Fellowship Hall.

At 1:30 pm "Three Souls One" will be singing in the Sanctuary.

Last Country Breakfast of the year

The Last Country Breakfast of the year will be Saturday, September 21st from 7 am until 10 am. Menu: Eggs, Country Ham, Bacon, Sausage, Gravy, Biscuits, Grits, Coffee, Milk, Orange Juice & Tea. \$8 for adults, \$4 kids 4-10 and 3 & under eat free. Take outs available. (No Drinks with Take outs).

Flyers for this meal are on the back table. Please invite everyone you know to this breakfast.

Pastor Parish Relations Committee Training

The Pastor Parish Relations Committee will have training at Stokesdale UMC in Stokesdale on Sunday, September 22 from 3 pm until 5 pm. We will meet here at Old Union at 1:30 pm to car pool. Also remember to bring your PPR Book.

The members are: Jeffrey Smith, Clarence Knight, Alex Johnson, Delbert Spillman, Ricky Frazier and Ashley Case. Also Darrell Spillman as Lay Leader and D.W. Coggins as Administrative Board Chairperson will also attend.

Charge Conference

It's that time of year again!! We will more than likely be having our Charge Conference either the end of October or first of November. All Committee Chairpersons need to go ahead and start planning when they are going to have their meetings. We definitely have to have Nominations Committee meeting and Finance Committee meeting before everything can be finalized. More information will be coming during the month of September as more information comes from the Conference office.

Hamburger Steak Meal

The Youth Ministry will be having a Hamburger Steak Meal Fund Raiser on Saturday, October 5th from 4 pm until 7 pm. The Menu will include: Hamburger Steak, Baked Potato, Slaw, Dessert and Drink (No Drinks with Take outs). The price for the meal will be a donation.

There are Flyers for this on the table in the back. Please invite everyone you know to this meal.

We are asking the parents of the Youth Ministry to please make desserts.



From the Pastor

To the Church in Sophia:

Grace to you all, and peace for your souls in the name of Jesus Christ.

Summer is drawing to a close for all of us. Children are returning to school, along with their teachers and administrators. Vacations are over. Days are slowly getting shorter. Schedules are returning to normal. And God is still knocking upon our doors.

Summer has come to an abrupt end for me as well. This past week I have officially begun classes at Duke Divinity School. My schedule is frightening and may still undergo changes. At this point it looks as if I will be at school for at least some portion of the day, Monday through Friday. I don't know yet how all of these things will come together but I am hopeful they will.

As for all of you, I want to take just a moment to encourage you in your discipleship and to bring a sense of order to where we are going as a church and family.

Over the past weeks I have preached from a variety of scriptures during worship and have encouraged you to renew your commitment to being attentive to the Word of God, to studying the scriptures prior to Sundays, and to carrying your Bibles with you wherever you go. These habits will inevitably bring order, growth, and godliness to your lives.

So far this summer, we have read from the following scriptures:

1 Corinthians 3

Luke 4 and Acts 8

Acts 3 and 4

James 2

Matthew 25

Please take time to review these readings in your personal devotion times. Pay special attention to the ways these teachings speak about the Spirit of God as a part of our Christian life, the call to model our living after that of Jesus Christ, and the exhortation to take seriously the grace that God has so mercifully extended to us – by seeking both a holiness of heart and life.

Serious attention to these things is what makes us Methodist. As Methodists, we believe these things are part of what make us truly Christian.

May God keep us all.

Bro. Jake



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Committees of the Church

This is a reminder there is a list of the Committees of Old Union for 2013 on the Bulletin Board. Please check to see what committees you are a member of.

History of Old Union UMC **Trivia Question**

August's Question: When was the Ramp added and Porch expanded on front of the church?

August's Answer: In the late 1990s..

September's Question: Before the Education part of the church was added on in 1976 -1977, where did the 7 classes have their classes?

(Answer will be in the October's Bell's Messenger)

How to increase our Attendance?

We are asking everyone to continue brainstorming. These ideas will be discussed at future board meetings. Our goal is to become a growing church again. In order to do this we need everyone working together and praying.

United Methodist Women

We have decided our annual Country Buffet Meal, Raffle and Auction will be Saturday, November 9, 2013. Meal will be from 5 pm until 7 pm and the Auction will start at 7 pm. So everyone start collecting Auction items for the Auction.

We had a called meeting on Sunday, August 11 between Sunday School opening and Classes to decide what the items will be on the Raffle. The prizes are 1st Prize: \$100 Visa

Gift Card, 2nd Prize: \$75 Visa Gift Card, 3rd Prize: \$50 Visa Gift Card and 4th Prize: Homemade Lap Quilt. The tickets are 1 for \$1 and 6 for \$5. Tickets are on sale now.

We will have a baby shower for Jennie Frazier on Sunday, October 20th from 2 pm until 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. It's a boy!!! She is registered at Wal-Mart and Baby's R Us.

We have lowered the price on the remaining Cookbooks to \$10 each.

We would like to remind everyone the United Methodist Women Meetings are open to all the women in the church. Our next regular meeting will be Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Beverly Spillman will be the hostess for the September meeting.

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men met Sunday, August 4th at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall. It was decided who would do refreshments for the rest of the year. We also met on Sunday, September 1 at 8 am and Seth Smith was the host.

The next Country Breakfast will be Saturday, September 21. Claude Smith will host the October meeting which is Sunday, October 6th at 8 am and Gene Farlow will host the November meeting which is Sunday, November 3 at 8 am.

The December meeting will be Sunday, December 1. At that meeting we will be having a Christmas Party. More details on it will be made at the upcoming meetings. All men are welcome to our meetings.

United Methodist Youth Ministry

The United Methodist Youth Ministry had a call meeting on Sunday, August 25th before going to class. We discussed about our upcoming Hamburger Steak Meal on Saturday October 5th and also we will be doing the Christmas Program this year.

On Saturday, October 5th from 4 pm until 7 pm the Youth Ministry will be having a Hamburger Steak Meal Fund Raiser in the Fellowship Hall. The Menu will include: Hamburger Steak, Baked Potato, Slaw, Dessert and Drink. The price will be donations. This is open to the public and we will be advertising in the papers and community. We ask the parents of the Youth Ministry to please make desserts for this.

The Youth Ministry will be presenting the Christmas Program "Christmas in Black & White: Discovering the real story of Christmas" on Sunday, December 15th at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

I will be handing out the CDs to the Youth Ministry on Sunday, September 1 so they can go ahead and start listening to the songs and learning them. We will go over the Program at the September meeting.

Starting at the October meeting on October 20th, we will have Play Practice at 5 pm and also again at the November meeting, on November 17th. At the December meeting on December 1, we will meet at 3 pm since our Christmas Party will be from 4 pm until 6 pm and then we will go Christmas Caroling in the Community at 6 pm. There will be some other times we will be practicing and those will be announced in the near future.

We are continuing to sell the Rada Knives etc. The new books have been given to each of the Youth Ministry members and there are also books on the desk of the Financial Secretary. If you would like to purchase see any of the Youth Ministry members.

Our next meeting will be Sunday night, September 22nd from 6 pm until 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Jonathon Stinnett will be doing the Program and Refreshments.

Baby Shower for Jennie Frazier

The United Methodist Women will have a baby shower for Jennie Frazier on Sunday, October 20th from 2 pm until 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. It's a Boy!!! She is registered at Wal-Mart and Baby's R Us.

Special Singing

I want to thank each and everyone that came out and made the special singing possible. We had several visitors also and I want to thank them and hope and pray they will come back. The singing and playing of the guitar was wonderful and I hope it blessed your heart and pleased God. We do this to honor God and rejoice in his blessings. Thanks again for your participation and look forward to a singing close to Thanksgiving. Thanks again and keep on rejoicing the Lord.

Gene Farlow

Prayer Before Randleman High School Football Game

For years, popular public address announcer and Randolph County Board of Education chair Tommy McDonald has led fans in a brief prayer before football games at Randleman High School.

McDonald said his invocation in the past had always been fairly generic. Basically, he said, he asks the Lord to put his arms around the players and fans to keep them safe. He said he also asks for protection, so that everyone can make it home safely.

Someone – McDonald doesn't know who – sent him an American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) publication that defines the American judicial system's attitude toward religious observations in public settings, including prayer before school sporting events.

"This really bothers me," he said. "We've prayed before games for years and years."

As the clock ticked down to the start of the game, McDonald was still uncertain. Maybe, he speculated, he could offer the prayer and nothing would come of it.

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“I don’t want to get sued,” he said.
“And I certainly don’t want the school to get sued. I shouldn’t do it , but, dadgummit, you got to do what’s right.”

At 7:18 pm, McDonald took to the public address system.

He led the stadium in prayer.

Copied From The Courier-Tribune.

In response to this there is a campaign to get as many people as possible to come to Charles R. Gregory Stadium for the Randleman High School Football game this Friday Night (September 6) at 7:30 pm to support Tommy McDonald and Tiger Nation. Prayer will be around 7:15 pm.

Become a Volunteer for Meals on Wheels

Volunteers are the heart and soul of what we do at Meals on Wheels at the Randleman Senior Center. Those we serve deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and our volunteers are the living examples of that belief. Our volunteers donate their time to serving our senior and disabled neighbors. Many recipients tell us the best part about meal delivery is the friendly, caring volunteers who visit them each weekday.

Volunteers using their own automobile, can choose a day(s) to deliver meals between Monday and Friday, throughout Randleman and outlying areas. Delivery time is typically between 9:45 am and 11:30 am.

Our Volunteers:

- Are often the only contact our recipients have all day

- Provide a warm smile and a caring attitude
- Provide a safety check to help ensure our customer’s well being
- And are the eyes and ears of Meals on Wheels and often alert us to recipients with additional needs

For more information on volunteering contact:

Joy Branning at (336) 498-4332 or

Sue Brown at (336) 498-4332

Country Breakfast for 2013

The last Country Breakfast for 2013 is going to be:
Saturday, September 21st

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.

Dustin’s Address

A1C Spillman, Dustin L
101 Airman Circle 2112
Offutt AFB, NE 68113-2070

Scheduled Board Meetings 2013

Sunday, October 20th at 2 pm

Shut Ins Addresses

Mabel Farlow
5080 Walker Mill Road
Sophia, NC 27350

Church Cleaning Schedule

September: Burt & Michele Blakely
October: Beverly Spillman

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

September:

9/9: Beverly Spillman
9/10: Aubrey Swoope
9/14: Lane Frazier
9/14: Isaac Blakely
9/19: Ruth Haynes
9/19: Lesa Luckado
9/21: Jonathon Stinnett
9/26: Brooke Parrish
9/30: Sandy Stutts

October:

10/6: Abby Stinnett
10/8: Diane Blakely
10/9: Holly Byrd
10/10: Bill Beeson
10/18: Claude Smith
10/18: Kelli Smith
10/19: Angel Byrd
10/27: Helen Cowart

Anniversaries

September:

9/4: Michael & Crystal Swoope
9/24: Seth & Kelli Smith

October:

10/13: Delbert & Lynda Spillman
10/19: Bill & Judy Beeson
10/26: Claude & Loretta Smith

Newsletter Submissions

Please have all newsletter submissions for the October edition of the Bell's Messenger to me by Sunday, September 29th. Remember my email is jws13@northstate.net.

Back to School Party



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Special Singing



UPCOMING EVENTS AT

OLD UNION UMC

(as of Monday, August 26, 2013)

THRU December 2013

- **Sunday, September 8th: 227th Homecoming for Old Union UMC. Speaker will be Rev. Jake Brady. Special Singing at 1:30 pm.**
- **Saturday, September 21st: Country Breakfast (Fund Raiser for the United Methodist Men) from 7 am until 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. Menu: Ham, Bacon, Sausage, Eggs, Grits, Gravy, Biscuits, Tea, Coffee and Milk. Adults: \$8 and Ages 4 to 10 \$3 and ages 3 and under are free.**
- **Youth Ministry Hamburger Steak Meal Fund Raiser from 4 pm until 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Menu: Hamburger Steak, Baked Potato, Slaw, Dessert and Drink. Take outs will be Available (No Drinks with Take Outs). Price of meal will be a donation. Please invite everyone that you know to this Fund Raiser.**
- **Sunday, October 20th: Regular Scheduled Board Meeting at 2 pm**
- **Sunday, October 20th: Baby Shower for Jennie Frazier by the United Methodist Women. Time: 2pm to 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall**
- **Saturday, October 26th: Halloween Trunk & Treat in Church Parking Lot. Hayride and Sandwiches in Fellowship Hall. This is a Free for the Community by the Young Adult Sunday School Class**
- **Thursday, November 7th: District Charge Conference at 6 pm. Place to be Announced**
- **Saturday, November 9th: 10th Annual United Methodist Women Country Buffet and Auction Fund Raiser. Country Buffet: 5 pm until 7 pm then Auction will be at 7 pm.**
- **Wednesday, November 27th: United Methodist Men Annual Cooked Pork Shoulder Sale**
- **Sunday, December 1: United Methodist Men Christmas Party at 8 am**
- **Sunday, December 1: Youth Ministry Christmas Party and Christmas Caroling**
- **Sunday, December 15th: Christmas Program “Christmas in Black and White: Discovering the Real Story of Christmas” at 6:30 pm by the Youth Ministry followed by Barbecue Meal (free for the community) by the Young Adult Sunday School Class**