

BELL'S MESSENGER



The Newsletter of
Old Union United Methodist Church
& Surrounding Community



Website: www.oldunionumc.org

Email: oldunionumc@northstate.net

January 2015

Issue 1, Volume 4

Meals After Church

We will continue our tradition in 2015 as we have the last few years. A group or Sunday School class in the church will take one Sunday a month to fix a meal after church for a Fund Raiser.

Sunday, January 11th: Young Adult Class will have Chili Beans, Vegetable Soup, Pimento Cheese Sandwiches, Dessert and Drink. Price: Donation

February 22nd: Senior Adult Class will have Spaghetti

We will also go bowling after the February Meal

March 15th: Adult Class (Menu will be announced later)

FREE Soup Saturday for the Community

There will be a FREE Soup Saturday for the community. This is open to anyone that needs or wants a hot meal on Saturday, January 17th (Snow date is Saturday, January 24th) from 11:30 am until 2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The menu will include Soup, a Sandwich and Tea, Coffee or Water. There will not be any take outs available or transportation provided. You are welcome to provide transportation for someone if you want to yourself.

We will take up donations for this Mission on Sunday, January 4th.

End of year Reports

Ed will be getting with everyone he needs information from for the end of year reports soon.

Church Bowling Outing

We are going to continue our bowling tradition we will be getting a group together to go bowling on Sunday, February 22nd. Anyone in the church that would like to go, mark this on their calendar. We will be going to High Point Bowling Center on Fairfield Road in High Point.

Jeffrey has reserved lanes for 25 people from 2pm until 4 pm on Sunday, February 22nd, after the Senior Adult Class Meal. If there is more who wants to go, I can reserve more lanes. The cost per person is \$9. I need to know by Sunday, February 15th who is going and their money. If you are going to just watch you do not have to pay.

If you want to purchase food from the grill you will need to bring money for it also.



From Pastor Ed

Believe it or not, the year 2014 has been sealed in its tomb. It seems quite normal that at the beginning of any new year resolutions are made in the endeavor that a better quality of life might be attained. But you know the drill---shortly after we make those promises to ourselves and those around us, good intentions give way to weakened disciplines. Consequently, many times we find ourselves right where we ended as the days of old gave way to the new.

May I ask you a question? In terms of spiritual disciplines, how smoothly did you transition from the 2014 to 2015? Did those spiritual practices you promised to adopt in the infant stages of last year expire having never reached their full potential and fruit as the year unfolded? Did you enter in to this new year dragging the “ball and chain” of unfinished projects both on a personal basis and additionally within and beyond the walls of the church? I can’t help but believe that one of the leading factors that renders us to our spiritual disciplines compromised is that we forget our walk with the Lord Jesus Christ is not a sprint--it’s a marathon! It is a way of life we adopt complete with long-term projects and along the way sanctification takes place as we grow in the grace of God.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the early church at Galatia: *“So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.”* You and I have received the gift of brand new year wrapped with each and every unique gift God longs to bless us with. As you sojourn this year in the footprints of Jesus, what faith projects might you be willing to take part in?

I invite you to consider these “points to ponder” just where it might be God would have you work for his glory in Old Union UMC.

- *Right now, what’s the project you are struggling with?
- *What’s the next step in the project?
- *What’s keeping you from taking that step or implementation?
- *What is it God has called you to do that is suddenly seeming to come apart at the seams?
- *What nay-saying comments need to be ignored?
- What comments need to be addressed?
- *What hindrances are really indicators that you are on the right track?
- *In this new year, how can you build accountability into your life to encourage faithful discipleship?

I offer you these “points to ponder” as we lay block for the Kingdom of God at Old Union UMC in the year 2015. I count it a most sincere privilege to do just that in this new year.

God Bless you all!

Pastor Ed



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History of Old Union UMC Trivia Question

December's Question:

What year was the following picture taken?

Who was the pastor at the time?



December's Answer: Winter of 1978 and 1979. The pastor was the Rev. Richard Randolph.

January's Question:

Where was this picture taken at? And what event was it?



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

United Methodist Women

The UMW met for their Christmas meeting the morning of December 6th in the fellowship hall. Each lady brought a breakfast item to be shared. We had a good variety of food which was enjoyed by all along with a lot of fun, fellowship and business. Instead of exchanging gifts we brought gifts for Darrell Spillman to ship to Dustin along with a card signed by all the ladies.

We decided who will host most of the meetings in 2015 and also that our Annual Buffet, Raffle and Auction will be Saturday, November 14th and that our Christmas meeting will be the morning of Saturday, December 5th. We were very pleased with our Annual Buffet, Raffle and Auction in November and voted to give the UMM \$1000.00 to help them pay the power bill. We also voted to help a lady with \$50 of supplies. They have been delivered to her and she has expressed her thanks for them.

Since our meeting, the refrigerator in the fellowship hall that we had been having trouble with quit working. The UMW had voted months ago to replace it so Jennie Frazier and Beverly Spillman very graciously looked after getting that done. A big THANK YOU goes to both of them.

Our January meeting will be on Tuesday, January 6th at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall. Robin Parrish and Lovier Stephens are the hosts for that meeting and as always all ladies are encouraged to attend.

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men met Sunday, December 7th at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone brought a covered dish breakfast item to the meeting.

We discussed some more on the Pancake and Sausage meal in April. We still need at least one more item for the Raffle that will be giving away at the meal. As soon as we get this item donated we will start selling tickets. We also decided who would host for the January and February meetings

The January meeting will be Sunday, January 4th at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall. Claude Smith will be the host.

The February meeting will be Sunday, February 1st at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall. Gene Farlow will be the host.

We do encourage all the men of the church to come out and join us the first Sunday of each month.

United Methodist Youth Ministry

The United Methodist Youth Ministry did not have a meeting in December.

We are continuing to sell the Rada Knives etc. There are books on the desk of the Financial Secretary. If you would like to purchase see any of the Youth Ministry members or you can now order online and have it delivered to your home and the profits still go to the Youth Ministry. How to order online is on the back of the books.

Our next meeting will be in this month, the date will be announced later.



Looking Back at 2014

I thought it was a good thing to look back at some of the things we have learned and accomplished in 2014. It is amazing this starts the 4th year of the Bell's Messenger.

We started out the year with our Annual Meals after church by a group and our annual Bowling Trip to High Point Bowling Center.

In January, our new website became live www.oldunionumc.org and the church had an email account oldunionumc@northstate.net

In March, we welcomed the group "The Lebaus" on a Sunday night. We had another successful Country Breakfast.

In April, we had our annual Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast.

In May, we had "A Celebration for a Cure" which was a sit down meal and there was \$600.00 raised at this event for Relay for Life.

There was \$2863.00 turned in to Relay for Life from Old Union, which includes the \$1000 match from the church. This is the most money ever turned in by Old Union!!! This beats the \$2,702.00 we turned in for the year of 2012.

We got word that we would have a new pastor, Rev. Ed Armfield, that would start in July and we would have a sister church again, Burnett's Chapel Rev. Jake Brady and his wife Dana would be returning to the Alabama/West Florida Conference due to Jake needing to return to full time status and no churches available in the Western North Carolina Conference.

We also had another successful Country Breakfast.

In June, we built the new playground set for the younger children that was voted on in a special meeting of the board in May. We also had a going away dinner for Rev. Jake Brady and his family.

In July we had our Vacation Bible School which the theme was "Gone Fishing." That weekend we had 32 kids. We also welcomed our new Pastor, Rev. Ed Armfield.

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In August we watched the movie "God's Not Dead" as a whole church in the Sanctuary one Sunday night. We also had the End of Summer Party which was formerly named the Annual Back to School Party for the community.

In September we had our 228th Homecoming and the S&D Singers presented a concert during Worship Service due to Burnett's Chapel's Homecoming being the same Sunday. We also had another successful Country Breakfast.

In October we had Charge Conference and all meetings that led to that. Practice started for the Christmas Program "Christmas Leaves Cricket County".

In November, we had our annual Halloween Trunk N Treat, the United Methodist Women had the 11th Annual Country Buffet and Live Auction. The United Methodist Men had their annual Pork Shoulder sale right before Thanksgiving. The Youth Ministry went Christmas Caroling. We also lost one of our members Mabel Farlow.

In December, each of the groups and Sunday School classes had their Christmas parties. And then we had our annual Christmas Program which was "Christmas Leaves Cricket County." We also had our Barbecue Meal after the program and we estimated around 150 attended it.

So as you can see we were blessed over the past year. I know there are some things I have missed but these are some of the highlights.

Let's make 2015 a "Great" year and an even more blessed year.

Food Collection for Christian's United Outreach Center (CUOC)

The Items to be collected for the next 2 months are:

January: Dried Bag Beans

February: Instant Potatoes

High Demand Items needed at this time are: Field peas, green peas, corn, pintos, northern and navy beans (dried or canned), macaroni and cheese, green beans, canned fruit (no sugar added), hamburger helper, sloppy joe mix, breakfast cereal (no sugar added), oatmeal, grits, instant potatoes, ramen noodles, pasta, soup, spaghetti sauce, bath soap and laundry detergent.

Christmas Special Singing

I want to thank each and everyone who came to the special Christmas singing. We didn't have the church full but we received a wonderful blessing. Thanks again until next time.

Gene Farlow

Koala Kare Baby Changing Stations

The Koala Kare Baby Changing Stations have been installed in the men and women's bathrooms in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks to the ones who installed them.



Questions on the Holy Bible

The Creation

1. When did God create the heaven and the earth?
 2. Did God make all things complete at once?
 3. What was the work of the second day?
 4. Why did God rest on the seventh day?
- Answers will be in the February edition of Bell's Messenger. Each month's questions will be on a different part of the bible.

Country Breakfasts for 2015

Saturday, March 21st
Saturday, May 16th
Saturday, September 19th

Pancake and Sausage Supper

The United Methodist Men will have a Pancake and Sausage Supper on Saturday, April 18th from 5 pm until 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The Menu will be all you can eat pancakes, sausage and Tea, Coffee or Water.

We will also start selling Raffle Tickets this month to be given away at this meal. The value of the prizes are between \$50 and \$75. Everything is being donated for this fund raiser so everything that comes in will be profit.



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
2868 March Circle
Bellevue, Nebraska 68123

Scheduled Board Meetings 2015

Sunday, January 11th after the meal
Sunday, April 19th at 2 pm
Sunday, July 12th at 2 pm
Sunday, October 18th at 2 pm

Shut Ins Addresses

Marjorie Adams
6087 Old Walker Mill Road
Randleman, NC 27317

Church Cleaning Schedule

January: Jeffrey Smith
February: Seth Smith



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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

January:

1/6: Darrell Spillman

1/8: Lovier Stephens

Luke Johnson

1/9: John Johnson

1/15: Jaylyn Gladden

1/18: Tommy Johnson

1/19: Chris Stinnett

1/23: Robin Parrish

1/24: Alex Johnson

1/31: Lynda Spillman

February:

2/1: Seth Smith

2/2: Katlyn Johnson

2/3: Geneva Godbey

2/4: Carsie Hill

2/11: Ricky Frazier

2/20: Tamara Frazier

Anniversaries

January:

1/21: John and Jan Johnson

Newsletter Submissions

Please have all newsletter submissions for the February edition of the Bell's Messenger to me by Sunday, January 25th. Remember my email is jws13@northstate.net.

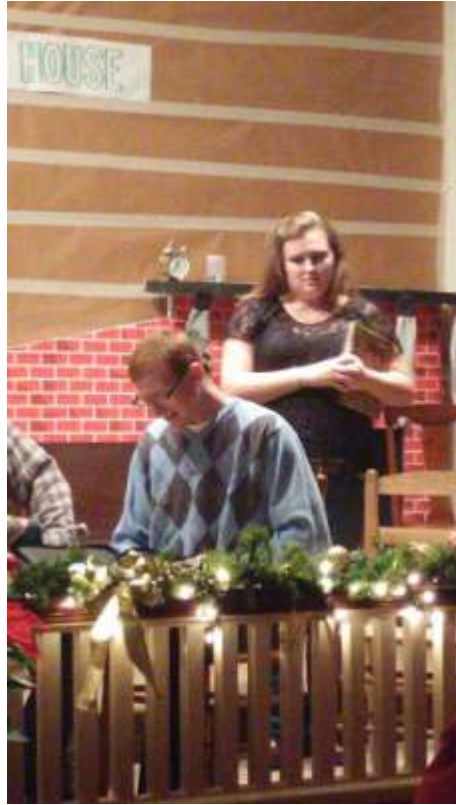
Christmas Program &

Barbecue Meal After



The Cricket County Crew





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**OLD UNION UMC
UPCOMING EVENTS**

(as of Friday, January 2, 2014)

- **Sunday, January 11th: Meal after church. The Young Adult Class will have Chili Beans, Vegetable Soup, Pimento Cheese Sandwiches, Dessert and Drink. Price: Donation**
- **Sunday, January 11th: Regular scheduled Board meeting after the meal**
- **Saturday, January 17th: FREE Soup Saturday for the community, from 11:30 am until 2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The menu will include soup, a sandwich and Tea, Coffee or Water. There will not be any take outs available or transportation provided. You are welcome to provide transportation for someone if you want to yourself. Snow date is Saturday, January 24th.**
- **Sunday, February 22nd: Meal after church. The Senior Adult Class will have spaghetti, etc. Price: Donation**
- **Sunday, February 22nd: Bowling at High Point Bowling Center in High Point from 2 pm until 4 pm. Cost is \$9 per person. Money needs to be to Jeffrey by Sunday, February 15th**
- **Sunday, March 15th: Meal after church. The Adult Sunday School Class will have a menu to be announced later**
- **Saturday, March 21st: First Country Breakfast of 2014. 7 am until 10 am in Fellowship Hall**
- **Saturday, April 18th: The United Methodist Men will have a Pancake and Sausage Supper from 5 pm until 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The Menu will be all you can eat pancakes, sausage and Tea, Coffee or Water. Also with this event we will be having a raffle.**

