



"TIDINGS"



February 2011

THE HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY



Every February 14th, across the United States and in other places around the world, candy, flowers and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this

mysterious saint, and where did these traditions come from? Below is a brief history (copied in part from History.com) of this centuries old holiday.

The history of Valentine's Day - and its patron saint - is shrouded in mystery. But we do know that February has long been a month of romance. St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. So, who was Saint Valentine and how did he become associated with this ancient rite? Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men - his crop of potential soldiers. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons where they were often beaten and tortured.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl, who may have been his jailer's daughter, who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today.

Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories certainly emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic, and, most importantly, romantic figure. It's no surprise that by the Middle Ages, Valentine was one of the most popular saints in England and France.

While some believe that Valentine's Day is celebrated in the middle of February to commemorate the anniversary of Valentine's death or burial, which probably occurred around 270 A.D., others claim that the Christian church may have decided to celebrate Valentine's feast day in the middle of February. Hundreds of years later in fifth century Rome, people honored Juno, the pagan goddess of love and marriage on February 14th. During the celebration, men would draw women's names and court them for marriage. Around 498 A.D., Pope Gelasius declared February 14th as St. Valentine's Day to honor the martyr Valentinus and to end the pagan celebration.

Later, during the Middle Ages, it was commonly believed in France and England that February 14th was the beginning of birds' mating season, which added to the idea that the middle of February, Valentine's Day, should be a day for romance.

The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written by Charles, Duke of Orleans to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt. The greeting, which was written in 1415, is part of the manuscript collection of the British Library in London, England. Several years later, it is believed that King Henry V hired a writer named John Lydgate to compose a valentine note to Catherine of Valois.

In Great Britain, Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated around the seventeenth century. By the middle of the eighteenth century, it was common for friends and lovers in all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes. (see page 7)



Newsletter of the Hillsboro First United Methodist Church

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Contemporary Music Director

Ron Current

Custodian

Tina Breaux



A LOOK AT FEBRUARY WORSHIP

8:00 a.m. - Adult Sunday School

9:00 a.m. - Traditional Service - Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. - Adult, Youth and Children's Sunday School

11:00 a.m. - Contemporary Service - Riber Hall

February 6 - Message: The Jesus Journey: Blessings and Woes
Scripture: Luke 6:17-26

February 13 - Message: The Jesus Journey: Love Your Enemies
Scripture: Luke 7:27-36

February 20 - Message: The Jesus Journey: Anointed at Simon's House
Scripture: Luke 7:36-47

February 27 - Message: The Jesus Journey: Someone Touched Me
Scripture: Luke 8:40-56

“THE JESUS JOURNEY - BACKGROUND INFORMATION: WHO WAS LUKE?”

The sermon series we are currently in focuses on Jesus' journey from the beginning of His ministry to His resurrection on Easter morning. We are using the Gospel of Luke as he relates the events of the Jesus journey. It may be helpful to have some background information about who Luke was and how he came to write an account of Jesus' life that ended up in the Bible.

Luke is the only gospel writer to include a sequel of what happened after Jesus ascended. He wrote the Book of Acts as a follow-up to the Gospel of Luke. It may surprise some people, but Luke was the largest contributor to the New Testament when you count up the total number of verses. The Books of Luke and Acts contain 2,157 verses. Paul's writings are a close second, with 2,032. Luke is also distinctive because he is the only Gentile (non-Jew) to write a book in the New Testament.

Luke was a doctor by trade (Col. 4:14). It is possible that his home was in Philippi, one of the places where the Apostle Paul planted a church (Philippi is in modern day Greece). He may also have been from Antioch, the first place where followers of Jesus were referred to as Christians. We do know that Luke was a traveling companion of Paul. There are several passages in the Book of Acts where Luke slips into "we" instead of "they." While he was not an eyewitness to Jesus' ministry, he was physically present for some of the things that happen at the end of Acts. Paul refers to Luke as his "fellow laborer" (Philemon 24). He also says that Luke was the only one who stayed with him while he was in prison (II Timothy 4:11). Some have guessed that Luke was the man from Macedonia that Paul had a vision of in Acts 10:9 that allowed the gospel to first be brought to Europe, but this is without evidence. It is likely that Luke wrote the Gospel that bears his name and the Book of Acts in the early part of the 60's, AD, from Rome. (continued on next page).

CHURCH OFFICE

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for Lunch

12:00 - 1:00

Friday

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Phone

937-393-2981

Fax

937-393-0025

Web Sites

www.hillsboromethodist.org
www.hillsboroyouth.org



TIDINGS

Please submit articles to the church office by email or in person no later than the 20th of the month.

Jill Reffner, Editor
wjreffner@sbcglobal.net

WHO WAS LUKE?" (continued)

Scholars can tell several things about Luke from the way in which he wrote. They can tell he was educated because of the vocabulary and diction he uses. He also makes frequent references to illnesses and diagnoses, as a doctor naturally would. Luke states that he wants to give an "orderly account" (Luke 1:3) of what has been handed down by eyewitnesses of Jesus' life. He takes an oral tradition (a collection of stories that people tell to one another) and writes a chronological account.

While Luke shares much material with the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, had it not been for Luke, we would not have stories like the Christmas story of Jesus' birth, or an account of Jesus ascending into the heavens. Much of what is related in Luke 9:51-18:35 can only be found in his gospel.

The intended reader for both the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts is a person named Theophilus. While this might have been an actual person, it is more likely a code name given to all Christians. Theophilus means "one who loves God." Hopefully, that name fits all of us. As we work our way through Luke's writings about Jesus and the Early Church, I hope that we become lovers of God even more for what He has done for us and through us.

Blessings, Pastor Derek

**THANK YOU FROM
SHAWNEE VALLEY DISTRICT
WEST OHIO CONFERENCE**

Dear Friends at Hillsboro First United Methodist Church: Congratulations! Your church has fulfilled its commitment to the Shawnee Valley District by paying your 2010 askings in full! Our District is committed to "making disciples and transforming the world" in the nine counties that make up the Shawnee Valley. That's what our collective contributions will go towards. By working together in the name of Jesus Christ, we will move mountains! Thank you for doing your part as the Body of Christ!

NOTE: Our goal is to be able to pay not only our District Apportionments but also our Conference Apportionments fully. We hope to reach this goal in under two years. Pastor Derek.

**REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS
AT HOME**

Sally Barrere
Joan DeHaas
Jean Head
Mary Hiestand
Catherine Hottle
Herbert Hottle
Paul and Janie Johnson
Mary Levo
Don McCoppin
Janice Saunders
Mary Wharton
Katie Wilkin
Jean Wilson

**REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS IN
CARE FACILITIES**

Heartland/Hillsboro - Wanda Bridges and Jim Hapner

Laurels/Hillsboro - Kathy Bowman,
John and JoAnne Walker

Crestwood/Hillsboro - Bill Conley

Highland House/Hillsboro - Florence Welder

Xenia - Marjorie McCreight

West Union - Jean Sapp

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who help at the Samaritan Outreach food pantry. The key to our success comes from the volunteers who work in our pantry. We would like to say "thank you" to these volunteers for their inspiring dedication and tremendous example to the rest of Highland County. We see and hear the heartfelt ways that they use in assisting the low income families that come to us for emergency groceries. We think that they deserve a personal round of applause! Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Sincerely, Debbie Mitchell, Executive Director

THANK YOU

Thank you to my church family for your cards, prayers, food and encouragement during my recovery. It all made everything better. Paulette Martin



ACOLYTES

- 2/6 Steven Burton and Spencer Rudy
 2/13 Allie Branscome and Chloe Harless
 2/20 Jessica Lerch and Faye Wooden
 2/27 Ty Alexander and Jacob Lerch



ALTAR FLOWERS

- 2/6 Glenn and Opal Armstrong
 2/13 Donna Summers
 2/20
 2/27



CARE & CONCERN

Helen Hartman: 393-2139



COFFEE/HOSPITALITY

- 2/6 Joe and Ruth West
 2/13 Jill Reffner and Jill Yochum
 2/20 Tom and Martha Watkins
 2/27 Dan and Kristin Walker



GREETERS

- 2/6 Duane and Irene Michael,
 Catherine Meade
 2/13 Mike and Mary Ellen McCarty
 2/20 Ned and Connie Lewis
 2/27 Eric, Danielle and Meghan Thompson



HOME COMMUNION

- 2/6 Waldo and Judy Ferguson
 Pat Meranda and Donna Summers
 Pam and Rebecca Pinney



LITURGIST

- 2/6 Maggi Horst
 2/13 Bill Alexander
 2/20 Pat Meranda
 2/27 David Grover



SCRIPTURE READING - 9:00 AM

- 2/6 Jill Yochum
 2/13 Nancy Burton
 2/20 Will Wooden
 2/27 Dodie Garrett



USHERS

Jim Tira (Captain), Dan Clark, Mick Ford,
 Carolyn and Lowell Chambers, Don Edwards Jr.

COLLECTIONS REMINDER

Toothpaste is the collection item for Samaritan Outreach for February. Collection boxes are in Hiestand Hall for all of our donation items.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Contact the people listed below if you are interested in any of the volunteer opportunities on this page:

Acolytes	Leslie Lerch	288-9808
Altar Flowers	Church Office	393-2981
Care and Concern	Suzanne Devore	288-2352
Greeters	Ruth West	764-1176
Home Communion	Donna Summers	393-9676
Hospitality - 9 am	Jill Reffner	927-2760
Hospitality - 11 am	Warren Bridges	695-0053
Liturgist	Jill Reffner	927-2760
Nursery	Suzanne Devore	288-2352
Our Daily Bread	Anna Spilker	402-4543
Saturday Soup/Sand.	Anna Spilker	402-4543
Scripture Readers	Jill Reffner	927-2760
Ushers	Margaret Horst	393-3390

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Our financial results for 2010 have been tabulated and the good news is that for the first time in a number of years our income exceeded our expenses - \$259,987.35 vs. \$248,969.74. This was the result of a significant increase in Sunday giving in 2010 (6 %) coupled with previous years' reductions in expenses. In fact the last six months of 2010 showed an increase in giving of 19% over the same period in 2009. This trend coupled with your response to November's Consecration Sunday has encouraged us to adopt a 2011 Budget of \$309,795.63 as reported by Pastor Derek in last month's issue of Tidings. To keep you apprised of our financial status the Finance Committee intends to publish monthly updates in Tidings. Tom Watkins, Finance Committee Chairman

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy to Howard Ellis whose brother, Cyril Ellis, passed away on January 1st; to Janet Griffith and family - Janet's stepfather, Ray Green, passed away.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2/1 Lynne Lucas
- 2/2 Gordon Yuellig
- 2/3 Martha Watkins
- 2/6 Carleen Alexander
- 2/6 Mary Ann Shreve
- 2/7 Catherine Meade
- 2/7 Howard Rudy
- 2/7 Jackie Thoroman
- 2/8 Jill Reffner
- 2/10 Paul Burton
- 2/11 Paul Jenkins
- 2/15 Heather Cummings
- 2/15 Lowell McCarty
- 2/16 Jean Wilson
- 2/17 Betty Johnson
- 2/17 David Lieurance
- 2/18 Alan McKenzie
- 2/18 Nick Thompson
- 2/19 Tyler Ayres
- 2/19 Mary Potts
- 2/19 Bryan Tener
- 2/20 Waldo Ferguson
- 2/21 Jacob Lerch
- 2/21 Jessica Lerch
- 2/21 David Myers
- 2/21 Jean Sapp
- 2/26 Pat Meranda
- 2/26 Matthew Turner



FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 2/5 Dick and Anna Spilker
- 2/11 Bill and Eleanor McCreight

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family: Thank you for the poinsettia you brought to me and for bringing home communion to me. I do appreciate it. Jean Wilson

THANK YOU

The Hillsboro Christian Academy would like to thank everyone for the recent donation we received. (special offering envelope). We ask that you continue to support us through your prayers. Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!



A great big thanks to all who supported Ezhumalai in 2010. Without your prayers and financial support, he would not have been able to further his pursuit of a degree in nursing.

Our Leadership Development Sponsors For 2010:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Opal and Glenn Armstrong | Ruth Georges |
| Debbie Burns | Pat Guenther |
| Sharon and Earl Burnett | Helen Hartman |
| Carolyn & Lowell Chambers | Maxine Kratzer |
| Barb Colliver | Sunshine Bible Study |
| Barb and Jim Colthar | Kim Sexton |
| Suzanne DeVore | Yvonne and Ron Tillis |
| Cindy Eigel | Jolene and Ray Walker |
| Ray Erickson | Martha & Tom Watkins |
| Karyn and Lonnie Evans | Linda Welder |
| Sue and Allen Frump | Rory Foley (Christmas present) |
| Joan Gale | Maureen Wood (Birthday present) |
| Dodie Garrett | |

Update On Our Compassion Leadership Development Student:

Ezhumalai is in his second year of nursing school. He attends Karnataka College of Nursing in Bangalore, India. He lives with friends, five minutes from the campus. Ezhumalai is doing well in his studies and is involved in church and his community. He will graduate in June of 2012. Ezhumalai's goals for the upcoming year are as follows:

- I will continue my relationship with God.
- I will improve my health.
- I will develop myself to the maximum (professionally).
- I will maintain good relationships with others.
- I will develop myself more (in the area of servant leadership).

Ezhumalai requests prayers for his uncle who is drinking more alcohol, prayers for his family and for his studies. Additionally, he writes that he would like to sponsor a child in the future, and he would like us to pray for that. In all of his letters, Ezhumalai expresses his deep appreciation for our support and sends his love. And he is praying for us!

(See insert for an update on Compassion in Haiti).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST
FRIENDLY HELPER'S CIRCLE

The first meeting of 2011 for the women's Friendly Helper's Circle will be held on Tuesday, February 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the church. All members please try to attend this organizational meeting so we can all get started off together planning for a busy year.

If you are interested in joining the Friendly Helpers Circle, we welcome you and invite you to attend this meeting. We meet monthly starting in February, with a couple of months off for summer break. We are a service organization and sponsor such events as the Father/Son Palm Sunday breakfast and the Advent children's evening, along with support for several mission causes. If you have any questions please call Martha Watkins at 840-0112 for more information.



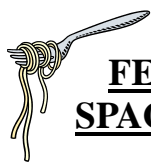
TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 1ST
OUR DAILY BREAD

The first Tuesday of every month is HFUMC day at Our Daily Bread. Each month, on HFUMC Day, we need eight to nine desserts. Please call Peggy Edwards if you would like to sign up to donate a dessert.

SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 6TH
SOUPER BOWL
OF CARING



Souper Bowl of Caring will be on Super Bowl Sunday, February 6th, immediately following the second service. This is a lunch hosted by our youth. Donations will be taken to go to the Souper Bowl of Caring organization. If you would like to donate a soup, please contact Christy Wagner. Hope to see everyone there!



SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 13TH
SPAGHETTI DINNER

A spaghetti dinner will be served immediately following the contemporary service on Sunday, February 13th. Donations will be accepted to help a local child who is in need of a hearing device. Our youth are trying to raise \$3,000 by summer to help this child. Any assistance/donations would be greatly appreciated.

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 15TH
DAVE RAMSEY'S
FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Do you ever feel like you can't get ahead or that you always live paycheck to paycheck? I have the solution for you - Financial Peace University. Learn about money through scripture and real life situations! This 13 week course includes information about:

Saving, Budgeting, Becoming Debt Free, Investing, Emergency Funds, Insurance, Paying for College, Giving, and more.

Sign up on or before February 15th online or with Amy Vance. Free class preview on January 30th and February 6th at 10:15 a.m. - place to be announced. Classes will be held on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. See Amy Vance for questions or details! Or visit www.daveramsey.com. (Childcare may be provided).

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 19TH
YOUTH SKI TRIP



Our youth will be going to Perfect North for skiing and tubing Saturday, February 19th. We will leave at 8:00 a.m. from the church and ski and tube throughout the day. That evening we will stay at a hotel and return the following morning. The cost will be \$60. This includes snow board or ski rentals and tubing for 8 hours as well as food. Money is available for those that need assistance. Please let Christy Wagner know by February 10th if you plan to participate in this trip. Hope everyone can attend! Any questions call Christy at 937-509-0310 or email at christy_wgnr@yahoo.com.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday school teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task, but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

VALENTINE'S DAY (continued)

By the end of the century, printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine's Day greetings. Americans probably began exchanging hand made valentines in the early 1700s. The first commercial Valentine's Day greeting cards produced in the U.S. were created in the 1840s by Esther A. Howland. Howland, known as the Mother of the Valentine, made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap."

Here are some fun Valentine's Day facts to ponder:

In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France, and Australia.

According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card sending holiday of the year. (An estimated 2.6 billion cards are sent for Christmas).

Approximately 85% of all valentines are purchased by women.

Over 50% of all Valentine's Day cards are purchased in the six days prior to the observance, making Valentine's Day a procrastinator's delight.

In order of popularity, Valentine's Day cards are given to teachers, children, mothers, wives, sweethearts and pets. 5.3% of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets!

Hallmark has over 1,600 different cards just for Valentine's Day!

Richard Cadbury (Cadbury cream eggs – yum!) invented the first box of Valentine themed chocolates in the 1880 s.

More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day.

Physicians of the 1800's commonly advised their patients to eat chocolate to calm their pining for lost love.

Approximately 189 million roses, mostly red, will be sold and delivered within the three day Valentine's Day time period. Red roses are considered the flower of love because the color red stands for strong romantic feelings. California produces 60% of American roses, but the greater number sold on Valentine's Day in the United States are imported, mostly from South America.

73% of people who buy flowers for Valentine's Day are men, while only 27% are women.

Many believe the 'X' symbol became synonymous with the kiss in medieval times. People who couldn't write their names signed in front of a witness with an 'X.' The 'X' was then kissed to show their sincerity.

In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who would be their Valentine. They would wear this name pinned onto their sleeves for one week for everyone to see. This was the origin of the expression "to wear your heart on your sleeve."

The most fantastic gift of love is the Taj Mahal in India. It was built by Mughal Emperor Shahjahan as a memorial to his wife.

Every Valentine's Day, the Italian city of Verona, where Shakespeare's lovers Romeo and Juliet lived, receives about 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet.

Authors, poets and playwrights have been trying to capture love in words for thousands of years. Their work speaks to the enduring power of love across the ages of human history. Check out this collection of quotes about love from some of the world's most famous romantics:

Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies.
- *Aristotle*

Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage.
- *Lao Tzu*

My bounty is as boundless as the sea, My love as deep; the more I give to thee, The more I have, for both are infinite. - *William Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet*

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways. - *Elizabeth Barrett Browning*

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. -*Helen Keller*

THANK YOU

We recognize and thank the following people who have made a commitment to serve the Lord through the following opportunities at HFUMC: (see pages 8-10).



THE CHANCEL CHOIR. We are privileged to have the Chancel Choir bless us with their music ministry. They add a significant role to our worship service. Choir members are expected to attend practice each Wednesday evening

(and additional times as needed for special occasions), and to arrive on Sunday morning in time for prayer and the warm up session. Practice means much more than “next Sunday’s music”, but also music for many Sundays in the future.

In 1978 the choir had a membership of 15; however, since that time the choir has grown to its present 42 accomplished singers. They sing from mid September through Memorial Day each year. Our church is blessed with a wonderful, talented choir made possible through the efforts of its members and their leadership. Thank you Chancel Choir!

CHOIR MEMBERS:

Carlene Alexander	Catherine Meade
Bob Armstrong	David Myers
Donna Armstrong	Marilyn Myers
Opal Armstrong	Paul Pence
Sandy Barger	Teresa Pence
Nancy Burton	Rebecca Pinney
Carolyn Chambers	Pam Pinney
Barbara Colliver	Betty Powell
Cindy Eigel	Adrienne Rudy
Corrine Erickson	Josh Rudy
Waldo Ferguson	Howard Rudy
Ruth Georges	Sam Rudy
Pat Guenther	Charlie Shreve
Pat Hakes	Mary Ann Shreve
Helen Hiestand	Chuck Summers
Margaret Horst	Donna Summers
Peggy Larkin	Niki Wenger
Leslie Lerch	Ruth West
Toni Lewis	Katie Wharton
Brenda Lieurance	Lois Williams
Paulette Martin	David Williams

MARILYN MYERS. Like all groups, there must be leadership, and in this case it is the choir director, Marilyn Myers. When first asked to direct the choir in the fall of 1978, her first response was, “No way!” As a teacher of music she felt that five days a week was enough, but through the insistence of Pastor Roland Fierce, she agreed to relieve the then present choir director, Charles Harsha, and direct for one year. Since that earlier time, she has continued to serve with 2010 making it her 33rd year.

Marilyn and her husband David moved to Hillsboro in June 1976 when their oldest son was only 15 months old and they were expecting their second son Craig. Both Marilyn and David had been raised as Methodists, thus it was natural for them to seek out the local United Methodist church. She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, and also has a Masters Degree in Education Administration from the University of Dayton. Marilyn retired after 30 years, fulfilling her life’s dream of teaching music. Her teaching experiences were in Lexington, Kentucky; Man, West Virginia; Bright Local and Fayetteville, Ohio.

The choir directors job never seems to stop. Finding appropriate music for each Sunday never ceases. Marilyn is always listening and watching for new and challenging music for the choir. It is a rare Sunday that we do not see Marilyn in the choir loft directing, smiling, encouraging and nodding with a gesture of “well done” to each of the choir members. Thank you Marilyn for sharing your gift of music!



THE BELL CHOIR. The Bell Choir began in late 1980 under the direction of Cindy Eigel, the current director. The initial three octaves (36 bells) were given in memory of Mrs. Nina Evans Tolle by her four daughters, Kathryn Davis, Helen Stevens, Betty Dennison and Ann Nye. Mrs. Tolle and her husband Elbert Tolle were life long members of our church. A fourth octave (12 bells) was added by Lawrence (Larry) and Signa Dixon in memory of their parents, Edward E. and Helen G. Hopewell, and Charles M. and Marietta Dixon. Both Larry and Signa were active members of HFUMC. In 1999, Niki Wenger, a current member of the chancel choir, purchased an additional five bells, and later contributed two more bells. The Bell Choir meets for practice each Wednesday evening, August through May. We greatly appreciate the Bell Choir and its gift of music on the third Sunday of each month and on other special occasions. Thank you Bell Choir!

BELL CHOIR 2009/2010

Barbara Colliver	Sue Ferrell
Laura Eigel	Leslie Lerch
Ray Erickson	Paulette Martin
Aubrey Griego	Catherine Meade
Shannon Ferrell	Katie Wharton
	Linda Wooden

Sue Ferrell was a loyal and devoted member of our Bell Choir for many years. In the thirty years of the Bell Choir's existence, Sue only took a short time off for medical reasons. She loved playing the bells and was a great fan of all the music organizations in our church. She was always willing to give of her time to run sound for our worship services as well. Sue passed away unexpectedly in August 2010. She is greatly missed by all.

BELL CHOIR 2010/2011

Nancy Burton	Catherine Meade
Barbara Colliver	Marilyn Myers
Ray Erickson	Rebecca Pinney
Shannon Ferrell	Nancy Strawmyer
Leslie Lerch	Katie Wharton
Paulette Martin	Marsha Williams
	Linda Wooden

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR

The Youth Handbell Choir was formed when members of the Friendship Company showed an interest in playing bells in the early 1990's. At that time, a set of choir chimes was also purchased to be used by the youth. Several Friendship Company members would stay to practice handbells after singing with the choir on Wednesdays. When Laura and Cindy Eigel resumed leadership of the Friendship Company in 2006, they felt a need to provide an opportunity for youth in the church who might be interested in playing handbells but did not feel ready to commit to the level of the Adult Handbell Choir. At that time, the Youth Handbell Choir was re-formed. At the present time, the Youth Handbell Choir has eight members.

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR 2009/2010:

Steven Burton	Spencer Rudy
Paul Jenkins	Anja Womelsdorf
Micah Pinney	Leah Womelsdorf
Joe Rudy	Faye Wooden



YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR 2010/2011:

Steven Burton	Joe Rudy
Paul Jenkins	Kara Russell
Nicholas Lewis	Spencer Rudy
Micah Pinney	Faye Wooden

FRIENDSHIP COMPANY.

The Friendship Company, a musical group of grades 2-6, had its beginning in 1990. It grew out of the original Junior Choir that had been under the direction of Marilyn Myers since 1980. Prior to Marilyn serving in this role, Clifford Smith served as the youth choir director.



In 1990, Zan Petrie, Christa Davis, Becky Storer and Cindy Eigel took over the group and renamed it "The Friendship Company". Choir chimes were purchased for the group. The original four ladies continued leadership of the group for three years at which time Becky Storer, assisted by her daughter Heather, directed the choir for five years. Following was Cindy St. Clair for one year and Vicki Carver for two years.

In 2002, when no one declared willingness to direct the group, Marilyn Myers and Cindy Eigel agreed to do it. At this time, previously purchased choir chimes were added to the group which gave a new dimension to the Friendship Company. Not only does it add accompaniment, but it is fun for the children. In 2006, Laura Eigel stepped forward to assist with leadership of the Friendship Company and became a valuable co-director until her graduation from high school in 2010. Rebecca Pinney and Shannon Ferrell are presently assisting with the direction of the Friendship Company. At the current time the company has nine members. Practice is held on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP COMPANY 2009/2010:

Steven Burton	Spencer Rudy
Paul Jenkins	Anja Womelsdorf
Micah Pinney	Leah Womelsdorf
Joe Rudy	Faye Wooden

FRIENDSHIP COMPANY 2010/2011:

Steven Burton	Joe Rudy
Paul Jenkins	Kara Russell
Andrea Kelch	Spencer Rudy
Nicholas Lewis	Faye Wooden
Micah Pinney	



THE RAINBOW CHOIR:
FORMERLY THE WEE-SINGERS

The Wee Singers began in the early 1980's. Since the beginning of Wee Singers, many wonderful volunteers have offered their time and talent in directing and leading this group. Past directors are: Lisa Butts, Carolyn Chambers, Christine Eigel, Krissy Harmon, Laura Jacky, Paulette Martin, Howard and Kristy Rudy, and Cindy St. Clair. The Rainbow Choir is presently led by Pam and Rebecca Pinney. Rainbow Choir helpers are Joseph Rudy, Spencer Rudy and Kara Russell.

This choir, ages 3 through 1st grade, does more than just sing. They also play instruments, which include rhythm sticks and colored hand bells. The Rainbow Choir practices on Sunday mornings from 10:05–10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. The group rotates performing at the traditional and contemporary services on the last Sunday of each month.

RAINBOW CHOIR:

	Noah Rudy
Kate Alexander	Rachel Rudy
Hannah Chambers	LeeAnne Vance
Andrea Kelch	Jackson Walker
Wesley Kelch	Chelsea Winters
Abbie Rudy	Joseph Winters

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE PRAISE BAND. The Praise Band began in the fall of 2004. If you have not attended the contemporary service recently, check it out! This group of talented musicians will definitely inspire you with their music. Thank you Praise Band!



PRAISE BAND 2011:

Ron Current - Group Leader, Acoustic Guitar, Vocals
Rod Daniels - Drums
Mindy Lee - Keyboard, Vocals
Paul McComb - Lead Guitar, Bass Guitar
Gordon Russell - Lead Guitar
Linda Russell - Vocals
Christian Schafer - Vocals
Kaitlyn Schafer - Flute



Past Members: Laura Eigel, Suzanne and Gary Hopkins, Bruce Hodgson and Dona Reeves.

CINDY EIGEL. Cynthia (Cindy) Eigel has served our congregation in many ways since she arrived in Hillsboro in 1979. Not long after her arrival she organized the bell choir and has served as the director for 30 years. In addition to our Adult Handbell Choir, Cindy is the director of our Youth Handbell Choir and Friendship Company. Since the illness and retirement of long time organist Clifford Smith, she has served as the church organist.

Cindy, a lifelong United Methodist, was born and raised in Conneaut, Ohio. Upon graduation from high school, she attended Mt. Union College at Alliance, Ohio, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education in 1974. In 1979 she received a Masters Degree in Music Education from Bowling Green State University. From 1974 through 1977, she taught at the Northwest Local Schools in Scioto County. She has been employed by the Hillsboro City Schools as a music teacher since 1979.

Cindy is an accomplished musician and has often played the French horn and the piano in our services. She spends many hours each week serving our church. Cindy plays the organ at our 9:00 a.m. Sunday service, participates in the weekly Chancel Choir and the Handbell Choir rehearsals, and is always available for special services.

Cindy and her husband Richard are the parents of two daughters, Christine and Laura. Thank you Cindy for sharing your gifts and music talents with us!

MARCH TIDINGS

In the March issue of Tidings we will continue our recognition of many volunteers within our church. As I gathered information this month on the choirs, I also collected a lot of information on people who volunteer for various tasks. I am amazed at what goes on “behind the scenes” at our church! I am sure that you will be interested in knowing how a lot of things get done and who is responsible. You will probably say to yourself, “I never knew that”! If you have any suggestions on someone to recognize, please submit your information to the church office or contact me.

Note: As always, if you discover any errors in the Tidings, i.e., a name has been accidentally omitted, or information is incorrect, please notify the church office or contact me and a correction will be placed in the following month's Tidings. Thank you. Jill Reffner

FOR THE CHILDREN

By . . . Lois Anne Williams

The Treasure Hunt...Part 2

Sara was excited and happy as her mom walked with her to Kate’s car and assured Kate’s parents that she planned to go to church with them next week. Everyone waved as Kate’s dad started the car and headed for the church. Soon Sara had followed Kate to her Sunday School class. She met some new friends and saw others whom she knew from school. The teacher, Mrs. Nye, helped Sara feel very welcomed.

After they sang several peppy Bible songs, Mrs. Nye told them about the treasure hunt. “I’ll give each of you the first “clue” and you can follow what it tells you to do. I will be eager to hear about your first adventure in the hunt.” Everyone looked at each other and giggled as they clapped their hands. This is going to be fun,” Jeff said.

Mrs. Nye smiled at the boys and girls making excited comments about the hunt. She handed the paper with the clue to the children and wished them well this week on their treasure hunt. When Sara arrived home she read the clue to her mother. It said, *Go to the center square of our town. In one of the store windows you’ll see a gold colored chest. Go inside and ask a salesclerk about that chest. Bring something next week to show that you were there.*

“Can we look for it, Mother?” “Sure, Sara. The stores aren’t open now so we’ll go tomorrow after school.”

The next day it seemed as though school lasted forever, but Sara and her mother were finally walking around the center block of town. Sara looked with great care in each store window. Then she spotted a gold chest. “There it is. Let’s go inside” she said as she tugged anxiously on her mother’s hand.

Going inside, they were greeted by a friendly young man. “May I help you?” Sara spoke with confidence, “I have a clue to our Sunday School class treasure hunt. It tells me to find the chest in your window and come in and ask you about it. Can you tell me what comes next?” “Yes, I can. Let’s see what is in the chest,” said the man as he lifted the chest and opened it for Sara to see into it.

Sara looked in and saw some pencils. “You may have a pencil as my gift to you and I’ll give you a paper with

some instructions,” he told Sara. “Thank you,” she said as she lifted a pencil from the chest and read the words on it. LOVE EACH OTHER John 15:17. “You’re welcome. Now here are more instructions.” He handed her the paper.

Sara looked at her new pencil and the paper he had given her. Mother looked around the Christian Books and Gifts store. She saw many interesting things. “We’ve never been in here before. I’d like to buy this book now and I’ll be back soon when I have more time.”

At home Sara read the instructions. “I need to find where the words on my pencil are written,” she said. They are in the Bible. I’ll help you find them,” said Mother.

They found the Bible verse and Sara read it every day as the instructions said to do. She learned the verse by memory and found ways to obey it. When Sunday came she was ready for Sunday School. She and Mother met Kate and her parents for the ride to the church. Today they were both excited to be on their way to Sunday School and the Worship Service. (to be continued).

NURSERY CARE WORKER

We are looking for a nursery care worker to staff our nursery on Sunday mornings. Pay is \$10/hour for 3 1/2 hours each week. A background check is required. Resumes may be submitted to the church office no later than Friday, February 4th.

SIGNS FROM GOD

As seen on billboards, church lawn signs and bulletin boards nationwide.

THE JOURNEY OF FAITH
IS LONG. BETTER
TAKE SNACKS !

FOR GOD SO LOVED
THE WORLD THAT HE DID
NOT SEND A COMMITTEE.

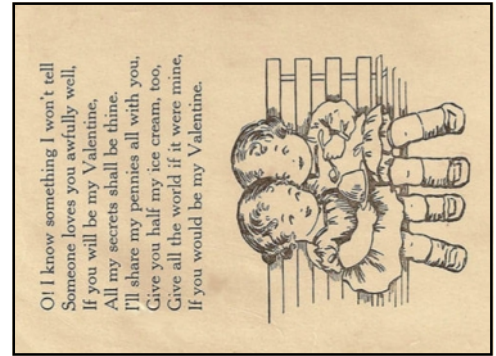
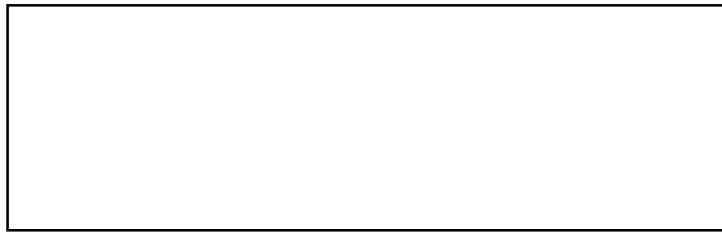
WE’RE LIKE FUDGE.
REALLY SWEET WITH
A FEW NUTS !



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