

# First United Methodist Church of Raytown

March  
2011

## Ash Wednesday Service

**Wednesday March 9th  
at 7 pm Ash  
Wednesday Service.**

Come early and enjoy  
Chocolate  
Indulgence  
Time at 6:30  
in the Upper Room!

## Holy Week Services

This year the Worship Team is sponsoring a full week of worship, Holy Week Services, They will begin Monday night April 18th at 7 pm, and continue throughout the rest of the weekdays. More information to come!

A guest preacher will give the sermon each night and there will be special music, some from the people around us and some from other churches. Please plan to attend these services and have the best Holy Week experiences. These services should last anywhere between 45 min to an hour, please come and be in worship together during Holy Week.

Monday 18th	7pm Service
Tuesday 19th	7pm Service
Wednesday 20th	7 pm Service
Thursday 21st	7 pm Service
April 22nd	Good Friday Service 7 pm

## The U In Jesus

Before U were thought of or time had begun,  
God stuck U in the name of His Son..

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,  
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.  
You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,  
For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.  
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand  
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,  
And this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His Upward ascension,  
He felt there was one thing  
He just had to mention.

"Go into the world and tell them it's true  
That I love them all - Just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,  
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,  
He'd like them to know,  
But it all starts with U.

~submitted by Jean Denham~

## All Church Potluck

Sunday March 13th

Following worship  
Ice Tea and coffee  
will be provided.



Please bring a  
dish to share.

For more information please contact Jean Denham

## A New Way of Being Church

Are you the same person you were twenty years ago? How about ten? Five?

We change inevitably: our views, our looks, and our habits; our actions change because we get older and wiser. Same happens with churches. The church you began attending twenty years ago is not the same church you attend now: the person next to you on a pew goes through the same transformation. Or maybe you find a few new people on the pews around yourself and it challenges you to make new friends. The new way of being Church is to accept change with joy, to take change as a blessing and as God's way to stimulate our further change and growth.

Jeff Spiller, the pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Mobile, Alabama believes that he served five different churches since he started that church. "I have served five different churches, but they all had met in the same location for the past twenty years!" What he meant is that as his church has grown and developed, he and his members have to grow and develop along with it. Every four years, Church has reinvented itself as it has reached new people in the community. Today it is not the same church it was when it started. The Church of Resurrection goes through the same development: it has to reinvent itself with every new stage of development. Any church, big or small, has to reinvent itself every four-to-five years to not just survive but to fulfill its God's given purpose to serve others.

The role of the church in the twenty-first century is to affirm afresh the core values of the Christian faith. God calls us to go deeper, pray harder and learn the Scripture more diligently.

Our church is working and praying hard to reinvent who we are. Since we started two years ago, we discovered that we can do lots of new things we never tried: Hope Kitchen, Wednesday Night Alive, Lighthouse for Kids, and RETHINK Training. As a result, our church joined the Small Church Initiative. Our leaders learn that it is not enough for a church to have a building, offer a worship space and Sunday School classes to the community, the church should be a fruitful congregation, capable of making a difference in the world. The new way of being church means to be constantly aware of what is effective and what is not. It takes courage to give up old ways and accept change as the only way to stay healthy and fruitful. Our Small Church Initiative group is working very hard on building a new bridge that will connect our congregation with the Raytown community.

Lent is a good time to re-align all areas of our spiritual journey. Let's prepare ourselves to enter Lent with prayers for our leaders and ask God that the process of our church reinvention brings the richest harvest. Let's prepare ourselves to step on that newly discovered bridge fully equipped with faith and enthusiasm!

The good news God is not dead! That's the news we share! Simple and clear!

In His Love, Pastor Lydia

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## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

in Mission Work

Our first meeting of 2011 was cancelled because of the weather. It was rescheduled for February, and installation of officers will also be held at that time. The annual '49 and Under Retreat' will be held in March in Independence. We hope to have two from our group in attendance.

We are again collecting BEST CHOICE and CAMPBELL'S labels, so help if you can. Containers are available in the lobby.

Sue Jones, Acting Recording Secretary for January

**Our first meeting of 2011** was held on February 27, 2011. A lovely lunch of salads, finger foods and desserts were enjoyed by the 13 attendees and 3 guests. We were happy to have Sandy McConnell, District Secretary, present to install the officers for 2011. Those installed were: Dawn Wiseman, President; Clara Fisher, Vice President; Sue Jones, Secretary/Sunshine; and Mary Williamson, Treasurer. Each was presented a lovely bookmark by Sandy.

Dawn Wiseman and Meghan McCurren will be attending the '49 and Under' retreat in Independence on March 4-5.

We are collecting items (shampoo, soap, bath tissue, toothpaste, etc.) for Della Lamb. There are containers in the lobby, and will be there until the deadline of March 28. Sue Jones, Acting Recording Secretary, February

# March 2011

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Sunday Schedule</u> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:15 <b>Worship</b>			1 Game Day 10 am Cubs 7 pm	2 ALIVE 6:30	3	4	5
6	7 Boy Scouts 7 pm Vineyard 7 pm	8 Cubs 7 pm	9 Ash Wednesday Services Start 7pm ALIVE 6:30	10	11	12	
13 Daylight Savings	14	15 Game Day 10 am Cubs 7 pm	16 ALIVE 6:30	17 Home School Parents Meeting 7 pm	18	19	
All Church Potluck Following worship	Boy Scouts 7 pm Vineyard 7 pm	22 Cubs 7 pm	23 ALIVE 6:30	24	25	26 Small Church Initiative	
20	21 Boy Scouts 7 pm Vineyard 7 pm	22 Cubs 7 pm	23 ALIVE 6:30	24	25	26 Small Church Initiative	
27 UMW at noon	28 Boy Scouts 7 pm Vineyard 7 pm	29 Cubs 7 pm	30 ALIVE 6:30	31			

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### **BIRTHDAY CHALLENGE**

Thanks to all who joined the Birthday Challenge in 2010. Because of your generosity, we added \$1,062 to the budget. And, already this year, we have GEORGE HANSON joining for his Valentine's Day birthday. Thank you, George! If you wish to join, just write a check for the amount of your age, and we'll get your name in the newsletter. Sue Jones

# Happy Birthday!

#### **February Birthdays**

4---Pat Lowe  
10- Lloyd West  
11- Becky Hefflinger  
14- George Hanson  
22- Nancy Passwater  
23 -Annette Rathbun  
24 -Terresa McKinney

#### **March Birthdays**

1---Joanne Dutton  
4---Nyla Jean Blevins  
4---James Denham  
6---Alan Bozich  
7---Tammy Gilmor  
9---Joan O'Neal  
13- Barbara Fisk  
15- Connor Bryant  
16- Raeanne Westervelt  
26- Dawn Wiseman

### **Fundraiser for REAP**



Pancake Breakfast &  
Baked Good Sale

March 12, 2011

9 am-12pm

Blue Ridge Presbyterian  
6429 Blue Ridge Blvd.

\$5 for adults  
\$3 for children over 2