



THE SPIRE

News of New Haven United Methodist Church

"Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors"

www.newhavenumc.org

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A Sunday school class shared the following excerpt from "Cure for the Common Life" by Max Lucado with me:
"Broken people come to churches. Not with broken bones, but with broken hearts, homes, dreams, and lives. They limp in on fractured faith, and if the church operates as the church, they find healing. Pastor-teachers touch and teach. Gospel bearers share good news. Prophets speak words of truth. Visionaries dream of greater impact. Some administer. Some pray. Some follow. But all help to heal brokenness to make the Body of Christ stronger."

We, at New Haven UMC, are the church. We aren't buildings or a place, but rather, a family. A family, set apart by God to love and encourage each other as we journey through life. Many of us have been watching the news of the destruction of the earthquake in Haiti. And even though we are thousands of miles away... modern technology enables us to see the daily toll of lives and property lost. Pray for those who are experiencing this heartbreaking time in their life. Pray for the families of loved ones that were lost. Our hearts go out to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

When someone hurts, we hurt. Painful times in our lives are not easy. Many times people come to talk with me about some difficult times they are going through, and one of the first things I hear is that "their problems aren't anything compared to what others are going through." The reality is that we cannot compare our hurt with another's - there is no way to say what we feel is any less painful, any less significant, or any less life-altering than someone else's. But what we can say is: we hurt.

We all have been through hard times in our lives. Times when we need to rely on God and the church. Max Lucado says God heals his family through his family. God entrusts us, as the church, to be a significant part of his healing grace. No one is strong all the time. Let us be the church to one another, bear each other's burdens and offer to be that place of healing.

Pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Haiti, as well as those here among us. Be that teacher, Gospel bearer, prophet, visionary, administrator, prayer partner, leader or follower in this Body of Christ. It takes all of us to help heal brokenness in life.

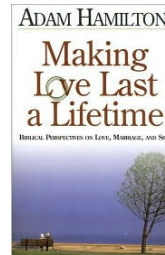
Walking the journey with you,
Pastor Cindy

Join Us for New Haven Nights Beginning February 2nd! Classes Offered Tuesday Evenings from 6:00-7:30pm



A Blueprint for Discipleship

A practical guide for Christian living using John Wesley's General Rules. Author: Kevin Watson (Tellia and Matt Watson's son!) Finding a way for a deeper, more spiritual relationship with God.
Materials: \$12.00

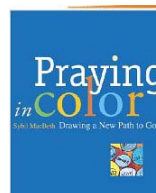


Making Love Last a Lifetime

An inspiring study offering helpful insights to grow in your relationship together, and experience all that God intends for a healthy, satisfying and successful marriage. All who are married, or anticipate marriage are encouraged to attend!

Materials: \$9.00

Class Leader: Rev. Cindy Havlik



Praying in Color

A new prayer form through drawing that is fun and deeply spiritual. Join in the practice of using color to pray!

Materials: Bring paper & crayons

Class Leader: Danny Hall

Call the Church office 743-6491
to register so materials can be ordered.
Childcare is available.

How's THAT Sound?

We need your help! Do you have the desire to help on Sunday mornings with our sound and/or video screen needs? If you have an interest in this area, we are standing by and ready to train you. Those who participate in making sure the sound and visual needs are taken care of in worship are an integral part of offering our best to God. Please contact Vincent Duiveman or Pastor Cindy as soon as possible if you would like to help. We need YOU!



Elementary Camp Leaders Needed!

I am excited to have the opportunity to serve as dean at Elementary Camp (grades 3-5) this summer at Camp Egan. I am looking for volunteers to share in this fun experience and serve as cabin/small group leaders. Camp will be held July 26-30, but leaders come two days earlier for training and to prepare for the campers. So your time commitment would be from the afternoon of Saturday, July 24 through early afternoon on Friday, July 30. We need male and female leaders who are least 17 years old. This is a very rewarding way to serve. You do not have to be a Bible scholar or an expert on children. It requires only a love for children and a willingness to try something new. As I said, training as well as everything else you need is provided. It's been a while since we've sent volunteers from New Haven to Elementary Camp, so it would be great to be able to do that this year. If you have any interest in learning more details, please contact me.

Serving with joy!
Tonya Ford

Dear New Haven Family,

Praise God for your awesome response to His call by sharing your monetary donations for our sisters and brothers in Haiti. Over \$3,000 has been raised!!!

If you have not been able to share in this ministry, you can do so at any time by putting your check in the offering plate or mailing it to the church. Your support for relief can be made out to Haiti Emergency, UMCOR Advance #418325. We'll keep you updated on this ministry to our extended family.

Prayers of comfort, peace, and love
for our sisters and brothers. God's Speed,
Adriaan

Bithell Farms order blanks are now located in the welcome area for wonderful fruit and seafood. Order deadline is February 15.

It's a Celebration! Sunday, February 7th

At the 11:00 service, we invite you to help us honor the caregivers/teachers of the Respite Program/Faithful Friends Sunday School Class.

We want to highlight the special talents of these special children and acknowledge their God-given gifts.

All New Haven's children will put on a musical presentation and be involved in all aspects of the worship service. There will be a presentation to the caregivers/teachers in the special needs program.

We invite you to stay for lunch and fellowship with our children and their families.

Please come by the Outreach table this Sunday or the next few Sundays to sign up if you'd like to join us for lunch.

If you have any questions you may call Kim Wofford at 622-6906 or Adriaan Duiveman at 250-5966.

NEW HAVEN'S NEWEST MEMBERS!



Pictured left are Vicky & Tim Hensley and right is Shannon Terry (sister of member Kaelen Terry.) All 3 joined in membership with our New Haven family on Sunday, January 17th. We are thrilled to welcome them and know that you will help them find a special place to serve and become part of all our activities!



EVENING CIRCLE CHOOSES NAME, OFFICERS

When the Evening Circle of the UMW met last Monday night, they chose the name **HOPE** for their Circle. It will stand for Helping Other People Everywhere, since their main focus is Mission. They also elected several officers to lead the group. They are: Lana Gotcher, Vice-Chair; Kate Scruggs, Treasurer; Linda Joyce, Program Resources; Danny Hall, Spiritual Growth; and Jan Boyd, Social Action. Congratulations!

UMW COLLECTING OLD EYEGLASSES FOR MEXICO

UMW President Bobbi Neal received an e-mail from daughter Rev. Wendi Neal asking for old pairs of eyeglasses for Mexico. For the past two years, she and husband Rev. Carlos Ramirez, have led a team from Elk City UMC on a VIM medical mission trip to a clinic outside Carlos' hometown of Puebla. It's a small, private clinic owned and operated by the Methodist Church of Mexico. In fact, Carlos' grandfather was the VIM head who was responsible for starting the clinic. It serves the people in the Tatoxcac/Zacapoaxtla area (mountains of the state of Puebla). The majority of the people are indigenous and descendants of the Aztecs.

This year, an optometrist is going with them, thus the need for eyeglasses. If you have any old pairs and would like to donate them to this effort, please give them to Bobbi or to any UMW member. So far, Wendi reports that they have collected 350 pairs, but they need around 500.



ATTENDANCE

January 17, 2010
8:45— 97
11:00—115
Total— 221

TRAINING FOR DISASTER RELIEF SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27th

There will be a V.I.M. (Volunteers in Mission) training in Oklahoma City in the near future. (The time and place are still unknown, but if you would be interested, please contact Adriaan Duiveman @ 250-5966)

Opportunities of the Week January 24-31, 2010

SUNDAY, January 24

8:45 am Contemporary Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Traditional Worship
5:30 pm UMY and Children's Choir
6:00 pm Bible Blast

MONDAY, January 25

10:00 am Grief Group/Parlor
6:00 pm Writer's Group/185

TUESDAY, January 26

6:00 pm Youth Bible Study
7:30 pm AA/ Rooms 185, 209, 210
Alanon/ Room 205, 206

WEDNESDAY, January 27

6:00 pm Chancel Bells
7:00 pm A.C.O.A./206
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, January 28

5:00 pm Math Tutoring/184
6:00 pm Band Practice
7:30 pm Yoga/211

FRIDAY, January 29

7:00 pm AA /Gym

SATURDAY, January 30

SUNDAY, January 31

8:45 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday Schools
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service
5:30 pm UMY and Children's Choir
6:00 pm Bible Blast



Restore Hope Ministries. . .

needs warm clothing: coats, sweats, blankets, quilts, sweaters, gloves, hats, mittens, any thing warm! If you will bring any of these items and put them in the closet across from the parlor they will be delivered to Restore Hope each week. Also, they can always use any kind of packaged foods, baby formula, diapers etc. They also have a need for egg cartons and paper grocery bags.

"Thanks from Carnegie"

I want to express appreciation on behalf of the families that your Angel Tree helped this year. There were many happy smiles Christmas morning because of your generosity!

Kim Byrd, School Counselor