



The Season Of Lent

Matthew 24:42-44 reminds us, "Therefore keep watch because you do not know the day your Lord will come." Some of us like to put things off until we *have* to do them. Postponement of filing our taxes, going to the dentist, or taking out the garbage can be examples of procrastination.

Suppose you knew the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ was near. What if you could see into the future and realize next year, this time, you would be standing in the presence of God and sharing how you lived as His child? Would it make a difference in the manner in which you live today, next month or even this year? We do not know when Jesus will return, but we know from His Word that His return is certain. God assures us we are to live a worthy life of service and devotion to Him. The Almighty Accountant will hold us responsible for what we have received and how we have given to others, as well as how we serve and worship God.

Starting on Wednesday, March 4, at noon, the community will gather for worship in our local churches. We will be observing the season of Lent with fellowship and lunch. Take the time to plan your lunch breaks with other believers and encounter God's Word in the midday of your lives. The schedule is included in this newsletter.

During this season of Lent use your days wisely to grow in your relationship with God. Take the time to attend worship, Bible studies, and pray.

The days before Easter are opportunities of cleansing as we put away the things which keep us from growing in holiness. Again this year instead of "giving up" something for Lent, our theme is, "*What can you give instead of give up?*"

As we are reminded in the words of the hymn, "Soon and very soon we are going to see the Lord," may we prepare for His coming like the bridegroom in the wee hours of the night. Let us keep our souls filled with the spiritual oil of the Holy Spirit.

Stay in the Faith,
Pastor Art



**The Gift Of His Son Has Been Given.
Pass It On.**



MISSIONS



TEDs Neighborhood, Congregation and Friends Monthly Meal
 TEDs provides a free meal to people in our neighborhood, our congregation and our friends. Our hope is that TEDs will become a monthly tradition the first Tuesday of each month. Because of the availability of volunteers, the meal may not always be on the first Tuesday. If you would like to help with the meal, please sign up at the church or contact Dan Cott @ 963-8422. Limited funding is available.



April 20, 2009 Second Annual Thalia Golf Tournament The tournament is being held at Heron Ridge Golf Club in Virginia Beach and is the major fundraiser for the trip to Texas in June. Go to the Thalia website at thaliaumc.org to register to play and for sponsorship opportunities. Cost is \$85 per player and \$320 per foursome. This includes green fees, cart, box lunch, refreshments, BBQ buffet dinner following the tournament and prizes. Contact Kerry Savinsky at 340-5243 or Michelle McKinney at 340-5015 for more details.



Hurricane Katrina Recovery Mission Trip - Faith Works Coalition is sponsoring a mission trip to Ocean Springs, MS in April. Work will be performed **April 20-24, 2009**. Travel will be on the preceding and following weekends. So far, Thalia has two individuals signed up for this trip. Please consider participating in this mission trip. For more details, contact Richard Norman at 464-1029.

June 20, 2009 Mission Trip to Texas June 20-27 a mission team from Thalia will be providing help to the Texas UMC Conference with hurricane relief in Golden Triangle of Texas, which is east of Houston. Estimated cost for the trip is \$600. A \$50 deposit is requested by May 1, 2009 for those planning on taking the trip. Call Dan Cott @ 963-8422 for more details.

Faith Works Coalition [FWC] - Thalia now has seven individuals that receive calls for volunteers by email. To be added to this list, contact Richard Norman. For more details on FWC, go to the following link to see a Beacon article: <http://hamptonroads.com/2009/01/faith-works-coalition-makes-quick-work-home-repairs>. FWC completed 17 projects in 2008 and has completed one fundraiser and completed 2 projects in February and has 3 more scheduled in March.

TGIF and Monday morning breakfast for the Thalia neighborhood students needs your help—Contact Cathy Sorrell @340-5015.

Ministry Team

Pastor Rev. Arthur Wolz, Jr.	Music & Arts Dir. Grace Holdren	Lay Leader Inez Jones
Associate Pastor Rev. Elinor R. Dalton	Children & Youth Dir. Cathy Sorrell	Church Council Chairperson Charles Winstead
Certified Lay Minister Joan Averette	Program Dir. Michelle McKinney	Sexton Bob Holdren
Asst. Administrator Joyce Williams	Nursery Dir. Cathy Graham	Ministers All the People of Thalia

OUR MINISTRY

Recently I read the fast-paced book of Mark at one sitting, and found that in the story Mark told about Jesus, the action seldom stopped. It seemed as though Mark was *driven* to capture the life of Jesus, event by event, in Jesus' short time "doing his Father's work." During Jesus ministry, he made every encounter with people meaningful! DO WE? What are we doing to make our life count when it comes to "our ministry"? Remember, we are ALL ministers – some of us are ordained as pastors... but we are still **ministers**. I had an "a-ha" experience a couple of weeks ago. One of our ushers said that she would go to the church for a funeral to see if she was needed as an usher. The "a-ha" part came when it dawned on me: that is "HER CALL" – to be an usher! She takes it personally! An usher's job is one we probably take for granted, but it is still a "ministry."

Many of you are 'called' to minister in the church – as "an angel" to help in our offices, as money counters, as one of "Bob's Dust Bunnies," or as Barbara Summers who is called to get this newsletter together. Still others feel called to come fold and sort the newsletter or mailings, or to hold a church office, or to teach a Sunday school class, to be in a choir; to visit shut-ins or our church folk we haven't seen for a while. There are many other ministries that go on in the church... to numerous to mention here-- and some that are waiting to happen!!

To all of you who follow your call to YOUR MINISTRY – **THANK YOU!** To those who haven't yet found your 'ministry', keep searching. God will let you know when you're there. The Kingdom of God comes closer because of the ministry each of us offer in our special spots on God's great Earth! Help everyone whom you encounter see her or his 'work' as being in ministry-- in their own corner of God's world!
NEXT PRAYER SERVICE: March 15—7 PM...come...bring friends!

GODBLESSUSALL!
 Elinor Dalton

From Your Program Director



Welcome to the season of Lent at Thalia UMC! This season of growth and renewal is especially important in the life of our Church. This year your Program Council is asking each of you to continue in the practice we started in 2008. We are requesting that you once again ask yourself "What Can You Give Instead of Give Up For Lent?" There will be many opportunities in your Church where you can put this into practice. Here are a few for you to consider as we start our Lenten journey again this year.

- TEDs Community Meals on March 3rd and April 7th at 6pm.
- Pound Sunday on March 22nd - Bring a pound of food for the pantry for every member of your family.
- Thalia UMC's Eco-Fundraiser on March 29th at 12pm- More information to come but be ready to recycle!
- Lenten Community Lunch Services- Every Wednesday in Lent (see list for locations)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES:



PJ's & a Movie features "The Last Mimsy" on Friday, March 13th. Showtime is 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Open to all children eligible for K-5th grade.

Do you have a heart for God? Do you love children? **Children's Church** needs YOU! There are openings for the 11 o'clock worship hour. Simple lesson plans, helpful teenage assistants, and children eager to learn about God. Our sign up sheet is on the door of the Children's Church Room, A6.

REM - Children's Fellowship meets 1st Sunday of every month from 2:00 -3:00 pm. Open to all children eligible for K-5th grade.



Dates for March: Mar 5th, 9th, 12th, 16th @ 6:00 pm; or Sunday, March 22nd @ 9:45 a.m. If unable to attend those dates, please make an appointment for special training. ALL adults working with children in any capacity are asked to attend CPT annually.

YOUTH MINISTRIES:

"Glean" – collect, gather, pick up, scrape together, etc. Our vision is to feed those that are hungry in our community. After "gleaning" for over a year, we are now seeking to set up a rotation schedule; therefore, we need 2 adults willing to commit to and join our schedule. Contact Cathy @ 340-5015.



LOCK-IN: Saturday, March 21st. beginning at 6:00 pm. Bring flashlights, sleep gear, and wear your most creative Roman Empire garb! We are going 'underground' for

this event. . . Space is limited – Reservations only! (sign up on Youth board)

Youth meet every Sunday from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm and is open to all youth in grades 6 -12.

Miz Cathy



Come and join us for our shared community Lenten Lunch Services. Every Wednesday in Lent beginning March 4th at noon, we will share in a message by pastors from each church, followed by a quick lunch. We promise to have you back to work in an hour!

Schedule for Lenten Services

March 4	Thalia Lynn Baptist	Pastor Art Wolz
March 11	Thalia UMC	Pastor Richard Goodman
March 18	Thalia Trinity	Pastor Prentis McGoldrick
March 25	Thalia UMC	Pastor Heidi Moore
April 1	Thalia Lynn Baptist	Pastor Richard Goodman
April 8	Thalia Trinity	Pastor Art Wolz

Our Lenten Offering will be collected and used for Local Church Relief.



On Easter Sunday, April 12th, we will celebrate Christ's resurrection with flowers decorating our sanctuary. Take this opportunity to share in the beauty of our risen Lord by ordering flowers "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" someone you care about. There will be information in the Sunday bulletin soon re: prices and order form. If you have any questions, please call Sheryl Ahern @ 498-9435.

We have been asked by **Abundant Harvest Church** to allow space at Thalia UMC for a mid week prayer and worship service. Please keep this request in your prayers as our church asks God for His will to be done. This will be on the agenda for the March 16, 2009, Church Council Meeting. Please plan to attend.

The 5th Sunday in March, the 29th, there will be **no Sunday school**. Instead we will gather in the Sanctuary to discuss the upcoming events for the next few months. This is a great time to share ideas and get to know your church family. Please bring your calendars and be prepared to share your vision for TUMC.



New Order Of Worship

Your Worship Committee chair, Jeri Burtchell, Pastor Art and Grace Holdren met recently to evaluate our Sunday morning worship.

Beginning with the 1st Sunday in Lent, March 1, we are going to implement a few changes to the Order of Worship.

We have decided to forgo the Gathering Hymn and call the people to worship by chiming the hour. Just like the hectic world in which we live, sometimes our worship service begins to feel rushed, without any time for reflection. We need to be still at times to let God speak to us. We have allowed for a time for silent meditation to reflect upon the Word of the Lord immediately following the first Scripture reading.

We will be singing the Gloria Patri (UMH70) and reciting the Lord's Prayer. For the Lenten season, we will be using the Doxology that is known as the "Old 100th" (UMH95) and adding a sung Amen to the opening hymn.

After Pastor Art's sermon, you will have a time to share your joys and concerns. This will be structured following the litany from the order for Morning Praise and Prayer on page 877 of the hymnal. The Prayers of the People is a time that allows you, the congregation, to lift up a brief prayer of praise or petition. After each prayer, the Pastor will say: "Lord, in your mercy" and all may respond: "Hear our prayer". If you feel you would rather have Pastor Art speak for you, please give your request to him in writing before the service.

Colossians 1:18 states "that in all things He may have the preeminence". Our prayer is that our worship remains centered on Him. Then, and only then, will our worship be meaningful and spiritually uplifting to us and pleasing to God.

Please Pray For Our Family and Friends

Jolene Arris, 1344 Harris Rd., VB, VA 23452
Bettie Baxter, 505 Piney Ridge Rd., VB, VA 23452
Belva Bennett, Lisa DeAngelis' Mother, SC
Clara Biswas, Missionary in Cambodia, clarabiswas@hotmail.com
Doc Boley, 3100 Shore Dr. #300, VB, VA 23451
Jackson Brown 12718 Hills Rd., Kearney, MO 64060
Mary Clayton, 1736 Buckley Arch, VB, VA 23456
Moselle Comer, 688 Kingsbrough Square, Chesapeake, VA 23320
Betty Compton, 15117 Philip Lee Road, Chantilly, VA 20151
Betty Farris, Atria VB, 1628 Old Donation Pkwy, VB, VA 23454
Judy Grandlund, 3824 Thalia Dr., VB, VA 23452
Kay Hastings, 417 Robbins Ln, VB, VA 23452
Carl Hedquist, 8 Smith Ave., Reading, MA 01867
Candace Keenan, June Whitten's Daughter
Rick Ledford, 226 E. Chickasaw Rd., VB, VA 23462
Charles Lowell, 2460 Laurel Cove Dr., VB, VA 23454-2056
Ellen Lunsford, 628 Royal Palm Dr., VB, VA 23452
Birdie Mae Manning, 3100 Shore Dr #123, VB., VA 23451
Derrick Martinez, Mrs. Paredes' Nephew
Dorothy Mixner, Mother of Frank Mixner
Alan Parker, Lorraine Morrow's Son-in-Law
Richard Pehnert
Jennifer Ramos, 3008 Persimmon Ct., VB, VA 23452
June Scarbrough, 3409 Edinbrough Dr., VB, VA 23452
Bessie Smith, Diane Kesterson's Mom
Carrie Smith, 4101 Clintwood Lane, VB, VA 23452
Tom Stewart, 711 N Street Southwest, Ardmore, Ok 73401
Ken Tryner, Friend of Rusty and Wende Barton
Margaret Tucker, 3751 Sentara Way, RM 308, VB, VA 23452
Rose Adelle Vosler, 4725 Bunker Hill Ln., VB, VA 23462
Christiam Walker, 638 Ravenhurst Ln., Apt. 201, Springlake, NC 28390
June Whitten, 5229 Winding Bank Rd., VB, VA 23455
Betty Womack 717 DeLaura Lane, VB, VA 23455
Elmer Zartman, 2793 Browning Dr., VB, VA 23456



UMW

April 3rd and 4th

Won't You Join Us?



RUMMAGE SALE



Start!
Your old stuff is
Someone else's
Treasure!!!



Bake Sale

Bring rummage sale items
Monday, March 30, through
Thursday, April 2, from 9 am
until 2 pm.

Also open Tuesday, March 31,
from 6-8 pm.



THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH INVITE YOU
TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE SIDEWALK CAFE

APRIL 3 - APRIL 4, 10 AM - 2 PM
SMALL FELLOWSHIP HALL

SANDWICHES
SOUP W/CORNBREAD OR CRACKERS
PASTA SALAD
SALAD PLATE WITH CRACKERS
DESSERTS AND DRINKS

STOP AT THE BAKE SHOP &
TAKE HOME A TREAT FOR THE FAMILY



United Methodist Men Update On Spring And Summer Plans



Early in the spring, we will hold a field day in the garage. There is a considerable amount of "owner unknown" material stored in the attic of the garage. If you have claim to any of this material, please make it known. We're in spring-cleaning mode.

After considerable deliberation and discussion, the task group involved in planning the "Big Event", has determined that to attempt to carry out such an event at this time would be a poor strategy. We have decided to step back and look towards a spring or summer event that could be more inclusive and less conflicting with the Thalia calendar. We hope our supporters will continue to be ready to help out as a more appropriate time draws near.



The **UMM Yard Sale** will begin on the second Saturday of April. This endeavor is UMM's primary fundraiser. The proceeds allow us to carry out our beneficence, scholarship, grant and gift ministries. As you are aware, our ranks are growing thinner and our energy is flagging. Our spirits remain willing and TUMM continues to believe that the fellowship we share in this working ministry is contributory to strengthening other young men's Christian journey through the sharing of wisdom and good companionship. We welcome you to come out on a Saturday morning and pitch in with us.

The regular **3rd Tuesday supper and business meetings** are now back in the church. We have a collaborative agreement with the Methodist Youth, and a back-up plan if they "all run away for the summer". We will continue to meet at 6:30, have a nice meal, a brief spiritual message, occasional guest speaker, and a little business planning. Our thanks go out to Don Rimer and Alan Burtchell who have found a way to squeeze TUMM executive positions into their already busy schedules.



It's **scholarship** application time again. Information on applying for a TUMM scholarship is available on the church's website or in hard copy from Cathy. If all else fails, see Ron Pritchard, John DeAngelis, Mark McKinney, Rob Lorkiewicz, or Ken Kramp for additional information and suggestions for obtaining a sponsor.

Please direct questions regarding Thalia United Methodist Men to Ron Pritchard - ronpritchard@verizon.net or 486 6593.

Thalia United Methodist Church
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Phone: 757-340-5015
Fax: 757-463-2252
Website: www.thaliaumc.org

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Return Service Requested



Remember to turn in
your Farm Fresh
receipts to the
church office.



Mark Your Calendar

March 3: TEDs Community Meal, 6:00 PM
March 7: "Living The Sacred" - District Mission Adventure
See Bulletin Board For More Information
March 13: "PJ's & A Movie" Night, 6:30- 8:30 PM
March 15: Prayer Service, 7:00 PM
March 21: Youth Lock-In, 6:00 PM
March 22: "Pound Sunday", For Food Pantry
March 29: No Sunday School, All Meet In Sanctuary
March 29: Eco-Fundraiser, 12:00 PM
April 3-4: UMW Rummage Sale And Sidewalk Café And Bake Sale
April 11: UMM Yard Sale

For further details, see articles in this publication.