



**February 22nd, 2012**

*The Color Purple*

The season of Lent goes back to the earliest times, when the early church prepared candidates during this season for baptism on Easter. By the time of Charlemagne in 730 AD, the length of Lent became forty days. People used this time to pray, fast, study, give alms to the poor and prepare for the day commemorating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent begins tonight at 6:00pm when we gather in the sanctuary for a service of ashes-- a stark reminder of our own mortality and of our need for God's forgiveness and love. Here are some other ways in which we'll invite people into a deeper connection with God during this season:

1. We are offering a six-week "Confirmation for Adults" on the Wednesday nights, beginning Wednesday night, February 29th. We have found a rich and powerful resource that will help us to deepen our relationship with Christ and the Church, and to re-discover what it means to be a disciple in the Methodist tradition. You'll not only learn a lot about our theology-- but how to put our faith into practice. After reviewing this resource, I can say I have never seen curriculum that is more clear or can make a greater impact on our walk with God. I will be teaming up with Bert Felder to lead this six-week course.
2. Sherry Felder will be leading a "Companions of Christ" group on Wednesday nights, which will be open to anyone who wants to deepen their prayer life by exploring the ancient spiritual practices. This group will serve as a source of prayer and companionship along the way. Sherry is a very gifted leader, and she is passionate about helping others grow in their walk with God.
3. We will have a Maundy service of worship on Thursday night, April 5th, which will remember Jesus words to his disciples in the upper room.
4. We will also gather at noon on Good Friday, April 6th, to meditate and reflect on the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross.
5. We will have an early morning Easter sunrise service at 6:30am on Easter morning. Philip Messner will be sharing the early morning message of hope on this powerful day!

6. Finally, I will be inviting you on a journey every Sunday morning during this season. I'll be preaching a sermon series called: "Forgiven"-- and we will explore the dimensions of this amazing gift and challenge God holds out to each of us!

I really encourage you to take full advantage of each of these opportunities. Beginning tonight, we will drape the cross on the parkway with purple. Starting today, when I drive by it, the cross will stick out in a powerful way. I hope this serves as a metaphor for all of us.

My prayer for this Lenten season: Holy God, during these forty days, may we turn our eyes upon Jesus in a new way. May the cross of his love and passion for us stay in the forefront of our minds. May we notice the cross of Christ in a new way in this season of preparation!

See you Sunday!

Shalom

Bruce

---

**Record of Our Faithfulness  
Sunday, February 19, 2012**

Attendance: 8:30 am--90 10:45 am--195 Sunday School--116  
Amount Received: \$11,004.55  
Year to Date: January  
Income: \$56,354.06 Expense: \$62,983.37  
Amount needed each week to fulfill our ministry: \$13,837.00

---

**This Sunday's Worship Service  
February 26, 2012**

Acolytes 8:30 am.....Meredith Boles  
Acolytes 10:45 am.....Griffin Agent and Barrett Howard  
Extended Session Volunteers.....Jennifer and Lance Fulcher  
Nursery Volunteer.....Nicole Shows  
Greeters 8:30 am.....Jerry and Carla Smith  
Greeters 10:45 am.....George and Carolyn Sisk  
Ushers 8:30.....Greg Taylor, Les England, Rick Kolar, Tommy Murphy,  
.....Tom Stewart, and Kevin Thompson  
Ushers 10:45.....Melvin Spell, Paul Nader, Greg Shows, and Delone Wilson  
Offering Counters.....Roger Williams and Alan Leach  
Youth Supper.....Lisa Sandefur and Lisa McLain

---

"I Heard It Through the Grapevine:" What's Happening at Parkway Hills!

**Don't miss out...**

Teaching opportunities in our Children's Sunday school are open for the spring.

March 11 (movie)- K-4<sup>th</sup> meet together-Adult volunteer is needed

March 18-April 15- Easter People

April 22-May 20- Jonah

May 27 (movie)- K-4<sup>th</sup> meet together- Adult volunteer needed  
Contact Cynthia to volunteer (cynthiagibbs@parkwayhillsumc.org)  
or for more information. Sign up sheets will be outside The Garden.

•

**Dog-Food Drive for CARA**

We will be having a dog and cat food drive starting for CARA's animal shelter THIS Sunday, February 26th! Please remember that CARA prefers Pedigree! Thank you!

•

**Son Valley**

We will be visiting Son Valley on Friday, February 24th at 6:30 pm. If you have not yet had the opportunity to go, now's your chance! We always have lots of fun! Don't miss it! Contact Carla Smith for more information: jsmith927@comcast.net

•

**PTY Progressive Fast-Food Supper**

The PTYs will be enjoying a progressive supper THIS Friday (Feb. 24th), starting at 6:00 pm. Join us for a fun, fellowship, and delicious fast food!

•

**Meeting Notices**

2/25-- Tony Campolo at Christ UMC from 10:00am-4:00pm

2/29-- Missions Committee Meeting at 5:30pm

3/4-- Children's Council Meeting at 4:00pm

•

## PHUMC Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 23, 2012

6:00 pm Weight Watchers Meeting with Carolyn Sisk

6:00 pm Ladies' Thursday Night Bible Study

Friday, February 24, 2012

6:00 pm PTY Fast-Food Progressive Supper

6:30 pm SON Valley Visit

Saturday, February 25, 2012

10:00 am Evangelism/Mission Summit at Christ UMC (ends at 4:00 pm)

Sunday, February 26, 2012

8:30 am Morning Worship Service

9:45 am Sunday School

10:45 am Morning Worship Service

3:00 pm The Blake Devotional: David Bowers

4:00 pm ASAP

5:00 pm Ladies' Sunday Night Bible Study

5:00 pm Youth Group

6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm Confirmation Class for 6th Graders

Monday, February 27, 2012

12:00 pm Prayer Quilt Meeting

4:00 pm Junior High Bible Study

6:00 pm Welcome Table Dinner for all new and prospective members

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

5:30 pm Wednesday Night Supper- Mission Committee Meeting During Supper

6:00 pm Wednesday Night Activities

Thursday, March 1, 2012

6:00 pm Weight Watchers Meeting with Carolyn Sisk

6:00 pm Ladies' Thursday Night Bible Study