



The Journal

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NOVEMBER, 2009

DAN'S DOODLES

“That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” (Mark 1:32:35)

Jesus was INTENTIONAL about spending time with his heavenly Father. After a day in which He had taught in the synagogue, dealt with a “possessed” man, healed Peter’s mother-in-law, and ministered to “the whole town”, Jesus must have been physically exhausted. Yet, “very early in the morning” Jesus “got up, left the house, and went off to a solitary place, WHERE HE PRAYED.” In fact there are many instances in the Scripture where Jesus took time to pray. He took time to connect anew with His Father.

These times in prayer were DELIBERATE times in Jesus’ life. He seemed to understand and certainly He demonstrated the principle that spiritual growth is not something that just happens, but rather spiritual growth is something that is to be cultivated. The work of spiritual transformation within us is all God’s work, and yet there is a part for us to play. We must make ourselves available to the Holy Spirit for this work of transformation to take place. In other words, spiritual growth happens when we are INTENTIONAL about seeing it happen in our lives.

The month of November would be a good time to find a way to be INTENTIONAL about developing a more grateful, appreciative spirit toward God and toward others. I don’t have time or space to create a long list of suggestions, but let me offer these just to get your own creative juices flowing:

A daily Bible reading time, an intentional prayer time regularly, attending church worship each week, participating in a Sunday School class for the month, utilizing the Upper Room resource for a daily devotional time, inviting another family to your home for Christian fellowship around a meal, finding a means of serving someone in need, practicing a random act of kindness toward a neighbor or even toward someone you don’t know, or sharing your personal testimony with another at some point during the month.

What we are trying to recognize is the old adage, “if we aim at nothing, then we are bound to hit it”, and that’s not good! Let’s challenge ourselves to “aim at something”—to make a difference in someone else’s life in the Name of Christ during this “season of Thanksgiving”. BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT IT. It will help them, IT WILL HELP US, and it will further the growth of the kingdom of God on the earth!

A BLESSED THANKSGIVING SEASON!!!!

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NOVEMBER GREETERS

November 1 - Annette Robertson

*November 8 - Marty Williams &
Bob Hearnese*

November 15 - Taylor & Julie Burke

November 22 - Jane Jackson

November 29 - Ronald Dodson

COMMUNION AT THE MANOR

We will serve Holy Communion at the Charleston Manor on Wed., November 4, 9:30 a.m. You are invited to come and share in the service.

ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our **ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE**, with the District Superintendent, David Norbury, will be held Tuesday, November 3 at 7:00 p.m. in our sanctuary overflow area. The pastor's financial package for 2010 will be set and the officers for 2010 will be elected at this time. This is always a good time to celebrate the achievements of the current year and to look forward to the goals for the next year!

UMW NEWS

The **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** will meet Wednesday, November 4 at 9:30 a.m. in the church parlor.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S SUNDAY will be November 15, 2009.

THE MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 AT 7:30 A.M. IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER. COME & BRING A FRIEND.

AMERICAN ROOTS MUSIC CONCERT

New Harmonies, celebrating American Roots Music, "**OPENING CELEBRATION CONCERT**", featuring Dave Para & Cathy Barton, Nationally Recognized Folk Musicians, along with the Hearn Elementary School Choir, will be held on Saturday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. Everyone is welcome!

ALL-CHURCH FALL COFFEE

The Family Life Committee will host an "**ALL-CHURCH FALL COFFEE**" on Sunday, November 15 at 10:30 a.m., in the Family Life Center. Everyone is invited to come & share the good food & fellowship.

THANK YOU!!!

UMW Prayer Shawl Ministry,

I have been enjoying my beautiful yellow prayer shawl so much for the past month. From the day Annette delivered it to me I've wrapped up in it many times everyday. I began to love it and depend on it every single night, even in the hospital. I snuggle in it daily. It's a perfect size - long and narrow for me. I've shared many thoughts and prayers with God. I'm constantly comforted by it as I place it tightly on my chest for warmth & love. Thank you, thank you and I hope all prayer shawls bring as much love, hope & joy to others as mine does to me.

Much love,
Dorothy Anne Brink

Dear United Methodist Church Members,

Thank you for the gift of \$500 that you gave to the Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center. Our mission is to help children and their families learn to live healthy, productive lives.

The domestic violence area is used every day by victims. A staff member is in the building 24 hours everyday. Last year, over 800 people used the domestic violence program.

Over 400 adults have earned their GED with the help of the Susanna Wesley staff. Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center received the highest performance voting in the state of Missouri for the GED program. Nineteen adults are working on earning their GED this fall.

We appreciate your donation that will help with the Christian work. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center, Staff &
Board

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Charleston Ministerial Alliance Community "**THANKSGIVING SERVICE**" will be held on Sunday, November 22, 6:00 p.m, at the First Christian Church. The speaker will be Aaron Mitchell. Everyone is welcome.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & POTLUCK DINNER

The Children will present a "**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**" on Sunday, December 6 during the morning worship service. The program will be followed by an "**ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK DINNER**" in the Family Life Center. The meat, bread & drinks will be provided by the church.

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*Open Hearts, Open
Minds, Open Doors*

**MAKING
DISCIPLES**

*

**MAKING
A DIFFERENCE**

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NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Katherine Sutherland Nelson
- 2 - Helen Lee
- 4 - Annabella Benvenuto, Denale Hess, Drew French & Meredith Adkisson
- 6 - Jacob Keener, Russell Banta & Marshall Story
- 7 - Mollie DeLay & Jim Moreton
- 8 - Linda Faye Raines
- 10 - Faye Elliott & Wayne Corse
- 11 - Emily Winchester
- 13 - Sandy Faust, Margaret Goodin & Eleanor Moreton
- 14 - Monica Goodin
- 15 - Ann Morgan, Evin Burke & Bill Brown
- 16 - Boothe Dugan, Jeffrey Keener, Rebel Dugan & Toni Graham
- 19 - Scott Wiley & Jack Matthews
- 22 - Johnny Moxley & Maren Slaten
- 23 - Annette Robertson
- 24 - Clyda Goodin, Don Moxley, Heather B. Shelton & Jazmyn Scott
- 25 - Heather Liebhart
- 26 - Jonathan Barrett
- 27 - Max Michael, Jr.
- 28 - Virginia Burke
- 30 - Donna Stack & Margaret McDowell

THE CHANCEL CHOIR WILL PRESENT THEIR

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

“CANDLES AND CAROLS”

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 4:00 P.M.

**THIS WILL BE DURING
THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.**

