



The Good News letter

United Methodist Church of Madison, South Dakota
"Growing Together as Disciples of Jesus Christ"

Ryan's Reflections....

Have you heard of Dan Kimball? Dan Kimball is the author of a 2007 book titled, "They Like Jesus but Not the Church." In this book, Kimball talks to adults in the 25-40 age range why they don't go to church regularly. He asks them what is it about the church that causes them to stay away or to leave the church or to never return after the church celebrates their confirmation. The responses are typical: the people in the church are hypocrites; church is boring; all they do is ask for money; church is too political; I don't like the music, there's no one who looks like me, who is my age, who has kids my age, etc.

Dan Kimball points out that a recent study by the Barna Institute shows that most churches spend their time visiting the 78% of the people who have already professed faith in Jesus, yet they have not made discipleship and growing their faith a priority in their lives. Dan Kimball asks, wouldn't it be better if we used our time to visit those who do not believe in Christ, visit those who want to meet Christ, rather than visit those who make shallow excuses for not attending church?

Reading this book, "They Like Jesus but Not the Church" has me thinking about why do I love the church? Many say it's easy for the pastor to love the church? Really? With all the in-fighting and the grumbling, the power struggles, the money issues, the lack of volunteers and leaders, the hectic schedule, the on-call at all hours of the night. Is it really that easy to love the church? Have you ever asked yourself why do you love the church? Here are some of my answers.

I love the church because of the people. I love being a part of a community of God's people who are together striving, sometimes failing, but most of the time successful in their pursuits of being like Christ and fulfilling his mission to make disciples

for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. I love to gather with the men, women, children and youth of our congregations as we share our lives together, the great celebrations and the great pain of our lives.

I love the church because Jesus loves the church and the Church today is a place where everyone is welcome, a place to seek refuge from the battles we face in the world. I love the Church because it is built on a solid foundation, the foundation of Christ's love, his words, and his teachings.

I love the church because the church loves its neighbors! I love when the church finds ways to feed the community, to feed one another, to offer hope in the form of a casserole! I love the church when we see people are cold and we make them quilts; when we see children needing winter clothing and we provide them. I love the church when we stop our busy schedules and offer prayers for someone who is hurting; when we send a card to someone who has been in the hospital; when we visit friends and neighbors unable to leave their homes, nursing homes or assisted living centers.

These are a few of the reasons why I love the church! I'd love to hear your answers to why you love the church? Send me an email (ryanmutzenberger@gmail.com), a note or talk to me. All in all, it's important to love Jesus! Christ is Lord and Savior! Christ is our redeemer! The Church is not perfect and never will be as long as we allow sinners to enter! Jesus would want it no other way, let them come, let us come! Some say they love Jesus but hate the church. I say I love Jesus and I love the church! May we continue to grow into our mission as we "Love God & Love Neighbor" as we make a place for all to worship!

See you Sunday, Pastor Ryan



Youth News

Senior High and Middle School Youth



Every Wednesday 6:30-8:00pm

Youth Group meals: Each year we ask that each youth group family provide one meal (or more if you want) for the group each semester. A sign up sheet and instructions will be located in the youth room right by the light switch.

February 1: Olson/Theophilus Family serving

February 8: Warns Family serving

February 15: Heim Family serving

February 22: Ash Wednesday - Soup Supper

February 29: Lent Soup Supper

Lock – In

The annual Youth Lock-In will be held

February 10, beginning

at 8pm and run until 8am on February 11.

All youth grades 6-12 are eligible to attend.

We are in need of

adults to help chaperone this event. We are running 3 shifts (or you can stay all night); 8pm-midnight, midnight-4am and 4-8am.

If you are interested in helping please contact Pastor Kris.

Youth, sign up in the youth room if you are planning on coming. Admission to the lock-in is a snack food or goodies to share with the group.

THE CROSSING

EVENT FOR 6TH-8TH GRADE

MARCH 9-11 AT DWU

We will be taking a group of middle school youth to the annual Dakotas Conference weekend event to be held March 9-11, 2012, at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD. Mark your calendars so you won't miss it. The event fills the weekend with worship, speakers, hang-out time, a comedian and other fun. Cost per youth from Madison will be \$35; the youth fund will scholarship the remaining fee. Sign up in the youth room if you plan on attending. We will need chaperones for this event.

Membership Class Offered Feb. 12th

Are you thinking about joining the Madison United Methodist Church? Do you have questions about what we believe, our history, our membership vows? If so, you're invited to an informal membership class on Sunday, February 12th at 3:30pm. Pastor Ryan will share information about the United Methodist Church, answer your questions and share with you the process for joining this church. If you choose to join, new members will be received during worship on February 26th. For more information or to register for the class, please call the church office at 256-2162.

Lent Study: Three Simple Questions

Bishop Rueben P. Job, author of *Three Simple Rules*, brings us a new insight on how to live a Christ-like life and explores the three most basic and profound questions at the center of our faith—questions that all major religions try to answer and around which there seems to be much confusion: Who is God? Who am I? Who are we together? In three brief and engaging chapters, readers will explore these questions and gain new understanding of the answers. We will also discover the greatness and goodness of God, the value of every beloved child of God, and the impact we can have in the world when we live as Jesus lived. There will be several opportunities to study *Three Simple Questions*. Pastor Ryan will be leading a large group study on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary following worship; other times will be Tuesday noon, Wednesday evenings and Thursday evenings, leaders to be announced. Watch the bulletin for more information and times. Cost of the book will be \$5.

Ash Wednesday & Lent Begins February 22nd

Join us for the start of our Lenten Journey on Wednesday, February 22nd with a soup supper starting at 5:30pm in the fellowship hall, followed with worship from 6:30-7:15pm.

Watch the bulletin for more details and ways you can volunteer to help with our Lenten Journey.

Thank You!

Thank you for all the calls, visits, gifts, cards and prayers while I was at Sanford Hospital and Golden Living. I would also like to thank everyone who delivered meals to my apartment after returning home.

- Kathy Straw

Parking Lot Renovation

Last year we purchased and demolished a house on the Northeast corner of the parking lot. Here in 2012, we are planning to re-grade and put in a new parking lot. We will be having a congregational information meeting after worship on February 12th. At this meeting, the Trustees will present a design for the parking lot and the Capital Campaign committee will present the financial information. Bring your questions and ideas!

Madison UMC Receives Builder's Club Grant

Word has been received that the Madison UMC has been awarded the first call of the Dakotas Conference Builder's Club request for 2012. The Builder's Club is open to all laity and clergy in the Dakotas UMC. Members are asked to contribute a minimum of \$10, four times a year to various building requests from churches. The money collected ranges from \$7,000-10,000 per call. This is a gift from all the Dakotas United Methodists to the selected congregation. We truly are a connectional church! Donations will be collected from others in the Dakotas until March 31st. If you would like more information about the Builder's Club or would like to join, please contact the church office or Pastor Ryan.

UMW Book Review

Hard Line: Life & Death on the U.S.
-- Mexico Border by Ken Ellingwood

The Southwestern border is one of the most fascinating places in America, a region of rugged beauty and small communities that coexist across the international line. With implementation of policy to shut down the border the area has also become deadly as illegal immigration has shifted into some of the harshest territory on the continent, reshaping life on both sides of the border. In *Hard Line*, Ken Ellingwood, a correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times*, captures the heart of this complex land, through the dramatic stories of undocumented immigrants and the border agents who track them through the desert, Native Americans divided between two countries, human rights workers aiding the migrants, communities struggling with an ever increasing safety concerns as well as a drain on personal and public resources, and ranchers taking the law into their own hands. This is a vivid portrait of a place and its people, and a moving story of the West that has major implications for the nation as a whole.

Mission Committee

The Mission Committee met for their first meeting in January and welcomed several new members. The members of the committee created sub-committees and volunteered to co-chair an area of mission. We want to share the opportunities and fellowship. We want to thank all of our church family for the numerous donations of "boxed food" placed in the grocery cart. This was the "Mission of the Month" for January. Madison Food Pantry was surely blessed with your generous donations. February challenges our congregation to several mission giving opportunities. The Mission Committee has chosen the following: the free-will offering at the Wednesday night Lent Soup Suppers will be donated to the Backpack Program for pre-school thru 1st grade in Madison. During Lent we take an offering at the Lenten Service and that was designated for the Wesley Acres Camp in North Dakota. The Special Lenten Envelope Offering will assist the Camp Scholarship Program. The Mission of the Month for February is for Habitat for Humanity.

One of the goals of this committee is to keep the congregation and guests attending our services informed of our missions. There will be weekly information in the bulletin, on the screen preceding the service, on the Facebook page, and the Website and when provided an insert in the bulletin. We will also continue to have a representative speak at the Sunday Morning Service. If anyone has a suggestion about a mission need, please contact any member of the committee. Helping others is the most direct way to put our new mission statement into action: Love God & Love Neighbor.

UMW Special Program

Friday, February 3rd @ 2:00 pm

UMW General Meeting will have a special guest, Vonnie Anderberg, speaking for Domestic Violence. It will be a time for valentine fellowship with a special dessert.

If anyone needs a ride, please call the church office (256-2162). We look forward to seeing you Friday afternoon.



February 2012



United Methodist Church, 304 N Egan Ave.,
 Madison, SD 57042 Phone: 605-256-2162
 FAX: 605-256-0400; Dial-A-Prayer: 605-256-2800;
 Email: madison.umc@midconetwork.com

~ February 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	February 7th - Committee Meetings: 6pm Trustees 6pm Worship Comm. 6:30pm Education Committee 7pm Missions 7pm Finance Comm. 8pm Church Council		1 5:30pm Bells 6:00pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Dessert & Devotions 8:15pm Praise Team	2 8:00pm Bible Study @ Callies'	3 2:00pm UMW General Meeting	4
5 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School/Confirmation	6 5:00pm Gathering Meal (East River)	7 10:30am Staff Meeting Noon Bible Study 6-8pm Committee Meetings (see above)	8 9:15am Peace Circle 5:30pm Bells 6:00pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Dessert & Devotions 8:15pm Praise Team	9 1:30pm Joy Circle	10	11 7:30am UM Men's Breakfast 8pm-Youth Lock-In - 8am
12 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship (Kid's Sing) 10:30am Fellowship & Congregational Mtg 10:45am Sunday School/Confirmation 3:30pm Membership Class 5:00pm Emmaus	13 2:00pm Angel Circle 5:00pm Gathering Meal (Marjorie & Kelly)	14 Valentine's Day 10:30am Staff Meeting Noon Bible Study	15 5:30pm Bells 6:00pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Dessert & Devotions 8:15pm Praise Team	16 10:00am Brookings Area Ministry Team 8:00pm Bible Study @ Callies'	17	18
19 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School/Confirmation	20 President's Day 5:00pm Gathering Meal (Lake Madison Lutheran Church) 7:00pm Faith Circle	21 <i>Newsletter Info Due</i> 10:30am Staff Meeting Noon Bible Study	22 Ash Wednesday 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship Youth Group following Worship 8:15pm Praise Team	23	24	25
26 First Sunday of Lent 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School/Confirmation & Lent Study	27 5:00pm Gathering Meal (Madison Hospital)	28 10:30am Staff Meeting Noon - Lent Study	29 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship Youth Group following Worship 8:15pm Praise Team			

Church Family News



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



02/01 Janet Robson	02/14 Dale Daniel
02/02 Chad Robson	02/15 Roger Denman
02/07 Nyeulah DeBoer	02/15 Mary Deutsch
02/07 Kathy Straw	02/17 Selona Lotspeich
02/07 Lana Siedschlaw	02/17 Tom Alfson
02/07 Helen Graham	02/17 Nicholas Kranz
02/07 Sheila White	02/17 Logan Prostrollo
02/07 Ashton Olivier	02/18 Shirley Harrington-Moore
02/08 Elsie Todd	
02/08 Austin Pitts	02/18 Harold Leighton
02/08 Jordan Shoenrock	02/18 Mark Stearns
02/09 Marjorie Haskins	02/18 Danna Balsiger
02/09 Doris Rook	02/21 Mara McDonald
02/09 Goldie Framness	02/21 Nolan Wire
02/09 Kendra Uthe	02/22 Lois Niedert
02/10 Doretta Fox	02/23 Molly Johnson
02/10 C.V. Graham	02/25 Brad Stearns
02/10 Adam Breuer	02/26 Ardys Dirckx
02/11 Mike Clarke	02/27 Della Magnuson
02/13 Allison Heim	02/27 Ava Smith
02/14 Margaret Thornton	02/29 Sandy Anderson

If your birthday is not listed or incorrectly listed, please call the church office.

February Worship Facilitators

Ushers:

Mike Clarke, Allan Gross,
Orlyn Olfert, Sue Warns

Acolytes:

February 5: Ella Graham & C.C. Graham
February 12: Erica Wegleitner & Stormy Mette
February 19: Mya Maxwell & Victoria Olson
February 26: Shania Schwebach & Emi Clarke

Good Samaritan Team - John

Orva Anderson & Betty Beyer
 Gladys Costlow & Carla Downs
 Michael & Cathy Downs
 Donald & Edith Erickson
 Rosemary Freitag & Bill Freitag
 Donald & Linda Grayson
 Gladys Hess & Ada Hueners
 Larry & Laurie Macziewski
 Elizabeth Mette & Joanne Owens
 Carolyn Rudebusch
 Steven Seitz & Christina VanDeWetering
 Marty & Sue Warns



United Methodist Men Breakfast

Men of the Church...you are invited for breakfast on **Saturday, February 11th** from **7:30am – 8:30am**. Come and enjoy food, fellowship and devotion. Hope to see you there!



Sympathy to: Inez Holland family in her death.
Health concerns: Diane Daniel, Ben Zimmerman, Ron Warns (Marty Warns' dad), Gloria Pitts (Gary Pitts' mother), David Byrd (Marie Hanson's nephew), Deb Peterson (Marilyn Hanson's daughter), Wanda Harford (Barb McDowell's sister), Wendy Beukelman (Red & Irma's daughter-in-law), Robert (Rachel Tillman's uncle)
 Willy Kappietchou - prayers for long-term legal residency
 Beth Abraham for her work & ministry in Malawi, Africa
 Our Armed Forces serving overseas and their families.
 Michelle Kelley (Sue & Marty Warns' niece)
 Colin Nelson (Sue & Marty Warns' nephew)

Missions



The February Mission of the month:
 Habitat for Humanity.

Lenten Soup Suppers Donations:

Madison Backpack Program

Wednesday Lenten Worship Offering:

Wesley Acres Camp in North Dakota

Special Lenten Envelop Offering:

Camp Scholarship Program

The Gathering Meal

The Gathering meal on **Mondays @ 5pm**

February 6: East River

February 13: Marjorie Haskins & Kelly Raethz

February 20: Lake Madison Lutheran Church

February 27: Madison Hospital

United Methodist Women

February 3: UMW General Meeting

February 8: Peace Circle @ 9:15am

Hostesses: Pat Gross & Elaine Cundy

February 9: Joy Circle @ 1:30pm

Hostesses: Chrys Daniel & Edith Erickson

February 13: Angel Circle @ 2:00pm

Hostesses: Janet Drewes

February 20: Faith Circle @ 7:00pm

Hostesses: Carolyn Rudebusch & Diane Cross



United Methodist Church
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U. S. POSTAGE
 P A I D
 MADISON, SOUTH DAKOTA
 Permit No. 140

Rev. Ryan Mutzenberger, Pastor
 Rev. Kris Mutzenberger, Associate Pastor

Return Service Requested

FEBRUARY

Children's Choir Sings
 Reminder: this month kids sing
 Sunday, February 12th


Want to see
The Good News
 letter in color? Give the church office your e-mail.

Old Cell Phones = \$ for the Guatemala Mission Trip

Do you have an old inactive cell phone lying around? As a non-profit organization, the mission trip can turn that old cell phone into cash for our trip. Just turn in your old cell phone in the collection boxes at the church and we will send them into a company that refurbishes them to be used for 911 emergency service. The company sends the



church a check once they have inventoried the phones. Thanks for your help!



Super Bowl
 Sub Sandwich Sale

Order your Subs for Super Bowl Sunday

6 inch Sub is \$8.00
 12 inch Sub is \$12.00
 Price includes a small bag of chips.

Order forms located in Entry,
 church office and fellowship hall.

Subs must be pre-ordered by January 31st
 All Proceeds benefit the 2012 Guatemala Mission Trip