

Our Vision:

A people and a community transformed through God's love.

Our Mission:

Transforming lives through:

- Humble Service
- Passionate Worship
- Extravagant Generosity

By growing committed Disciples for God's glory!

Service Squad collects teddy bears for SAFEHOME

The EUMC Service Squad collected NEW teddy bears throughout the month of February for children at SAFEHOME, a domestic violence shelter in Johnson County.

Teddy bears lined the ledges in the back of the sanctuary throughout the month.

Thank you to all who donated!



Fill food pantry cart with peanut butter In March

March is peanut butter month for the Edgerton Food Pantry grocery cart in Fellowship Hall.

Did you know that peanut butter is an excellent source of protein, potassium, calcium, iron, and vitamins B3, E, and K. Peanuts contribute to brain health, brain circulation, and blood flow,



along with being good antioxidants. What is your favorite way to eat peanut butter – spread on apples or bananas, spread on toast, or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich???

Remember to pick up extras jars of peanut butter during March and fill that grocery cart to overflowing!!!!

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March 2012

Edgerton United Methodist Church



Unnatural

It's countercultural, unnatural even — this Lenten call to deny oneself and resist temptation, to put aside comfort for a time in reflection of Jesus' sacrifice for us. It's downright uncomfortable.

Lent is a most unwelcome experience because human nature seeks pleasure and avoids pain at all costs. But those who dare to follow Jesus into the desert will find a rich reward.



Shamrock

St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, "Is this one leaf, or three?" Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.

A note about battery recycling:

We only collect rechargeable batteries in the container at the church. Please dispose of all other types in the trash. Thanks!



February Numbers

Date	Attendance
02/05	ER: 40 10:45 AM: 62
02/12	ER: 32 10:45 AM: 63
02/19	ER: 37 10:45 AM: 76

"Good News" Letter

Volume 9, Issue 3

March 2012

Baskets for Sharing

Service Squad made Baskets for Sharing throughout the month of January. These baskets are for Pastor Bruce to pass out when he visits someone in a nursing home or hospital, or to bring to those who are unable to leave their homes. As the tweens created the baskets, they discussed the parable of The Good Samaritan and that every person is a neighbor who should be cared for.

Service Squad members who helped with the Baskets for Sharing were: front row (left to right): Riley Buck, Quinn Jones, Kylie Moorehouse, Gracie Moorehouse; back row (left to right): Chase Maxwell, Corbin Schrack, Baylor Maxwell. (Not pictured: Lauren Highfill and Makenna Hutchinson)

Vintage Park resident Mary Medlin received a goodie bag, delivered by Pastor Bruce.



EUMC presents elementary school with donation

Pastor Bruce, Cheri Magee, and Angie Capps present Edgerton Elementary Principal Nancy Woolery with EUMC's check for the Edgerton Elementary Emergency Fund.

Thank you to all who donated this year.



Pastor’s Pen

“Why We Need Easter”

by Pastor Bruce Draper

You have heard it said, “Life is a journey, not a destination.” There is spiritual truth in that statement. Even Steven Tyler of Aerosmith (Rock ‘n Roll Hall of Fame)



wrote that into a song called “Amazing,” after his successful drug rehabilitation years ago. He had to come close to his “permanent vacation” (which is also the title of an earlier Aerosmith album) before he “saw the light.” I don’t know about Tyler’s Christianity, but it is true that each day we are in motion. Each day is important on our journey.

Yes, we do have a destination – heaven. We are not there yet, and we are not in a hurry to get there. And yet a piece of heaven is already here in you and me as Christians, a gift of the Holy Spirit, a glimpse of the joy and peace and love of God.

But as we journey though life with purpose and meaning, we encounter the ups and downs of life. Sometimes it seems all the bad news happens at once. Sometimes it feels overwhelming. My mom just went through heart surgery. They had to temporarily stop her heart and have machines pump the blood and breathe for her. She is recovering on schedule and doing quite well. What a blessing! It was a resurrection.

We all experience death and resurrection all the time, from the tiny to the major. Each day the sun dies. Sometimes the night makes us feel sad or lonely. Then, the sun comes up and we feel better, brighter, and happier. It is a NEW day, a new start, a new opportunity. That is a resurrection. The ancients feared the winter solstice – the days continued to get shorter and they feared it would eventually disappear. And then, as they documented, the daytime would start to get longer each day ... you know, around Dec. 25. :-) The sun was not going to permanently disappear after all.

Easter is all about the journey to and through resurrection. We are an Easter people. That means that though from time-to-time we all go

through the valley of death, we will go through to the glory and joy of resurrection. We and our loved ones experience loss of health, employment, love, pet, and friendships and relationships.

The dramatic story of Lent’s preparation to get to the parade of palms to the Last Supper, to the passion of the cross, to death, and back to life – is complete in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our savior on Easter morning. That gift of his resurrection is what you and I receive, what we hang our hope on, and what we diligently share with others on our life journey to our final resurrection. We know that no matter what death we go through, there will always be a final Easter for us – a final resurrection of eternal joy, happiness, and complete unconditional love.

Come and experience this journey with us as together we worship toward the great resurrection, Easter!

Join us for our new sermon series, “Journey to Hope.” This began on Ash Wednesday, will continue throughout Lent, and will conclude on Easter Sunday.



United Methodist Women Activities

Join us for our March meeting, on Saturday, March 10, at 8:45 a.m., as we learn about Hope Lodge.

Hope Lodge is sponsored by the American Cancer

Society, and is available to people who need daily treatments but live 45 miles or farther from a hospital. Hope Lodge is also our

Mission Opportunity for the month. Please join us on Saturday, March 10 as we continue to learn and grow.

Women on a Mission

Our 2012 projects are continuing with the fleece blankets, lab robes, completed afghans, scarfs, and hats.

If you want to participate, please join us on the third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the parsonage, as we start building our supply again.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hill, Jackie Walker, Carol Shobe, or any member of Women on a Mission.



Roses & Thorns Reading Group

The Roses & Thorns Reading Group met on Feb. 6 for discussion of "Season on Blessing" by Beverly LaHaye and Terri Blackstock. The book told a touching story of the struggles that families face because of serious illness and family relationships. It was particularly difficult for the friends and family to face losing someone to cancer.

Listed below are the books that were selected to be read through July:

April — "Beaded Hope" by Cathy Liggett

May — "I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced" by Nujood Ali

June — "A Single Thread" by Marie Bostwick

July — "Laugh Your Way to Grace" by Susan Sparks

The group will meet again on March 5 at 7 p.m. in the parsonage to discuss "Hidden in the Rubble: A Haitian Pilgrimage to Compassion and Resurrection" by Gerald Thomas Straub.

Please note the group is now meeting in the parsonage. Hope you can join us on March 5 at 7 p.m.



Mission Team Update

We started our Walk to Jerusalem on Jan. 15, and many people have been logging their steps, miles, and minutes in the red notebook in Fellowship Hall.

ing and surprise ourselves as to how far we have walked in 3 short months!

You can still put your name on the list and begin walking with us. The Service Squad has volunteered to calculate all of our miles and have been putting footprints along the wall in Fellowship Hall to show our progress. Please check this out to see how far we have walked. Let’s keep walk-

If you were not in church on Feb. 19 to pick up your calendar and bank for the Heifer International Lenten Offering, they will be available on the table in Fellowship Hall for a couple of weeks. This is similar to last year, but not the same. Please return your full bank on Sunday, April 8 or April 15. Lent is six weeks in

length, and the calendar is only four weeks. We are suggesting that you reuse the remaining two weeks from one of the previous weeks in the calendar. Obviously, we will be sending your offerings to Heifer International. Somewhere on the calendars it encourages you to fill the Ark; we are asking you to fill the bank instead.

— Sue Luttrell and Kathy Hill, Mission Team co-chairs



BENEFIT DINNER DANCE

Date: Saturday, March 3rd, 2012
Time: 6:00pm to 10:30pm

Join the Edgerton UMC Relay For Life Team for a dinner/dance to benefit the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Santa Fe Trail. This is an alcohol free, family friendly event. Tickets for donation drawings will be available, drawings to be held at 8:30 pm. Music provided by The Prairie Wine Band.

Dinner served from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
 Dance from 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm
 Donations accepted at the door:
 Children under 3 — free
 4 years thru 13 years — \$3
 14 years and up — \$6 each or \$10 per couple

Location is the Gardner Grange Hall on the Johnson County Fairgrounds, located at 202 E. Washington in Gardner

For further information contact Rita Jones at rjonesk@gmail.com