

# The Current

A Newsletter of Crossroads United Methodist Church  
March 2010

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## Aid for Haiti

Submitted by Lurene Swenson



We continue to see and hear heartbreaking stories from Haiti and its people. We have decided to continue making and collecting for our health kits to send. We hope that you decide to help us do this. It will cost you anywhere from \$6-8 to put a kit together, and it will mean so much to those who lost everything to know that others care about them.

The kits consist of (**all new items**):

1 hand towel, 1 wash cloth, 1 comb, 1 fingernail clipper, 1 bar of soap (3 oz or larger), 1 toothbrush, 6 plain Band-Aids and 1 dollar for a toothpaste (NO toothpaste please). Call Lurene at 849-7357 or the office for questions. We can only use the items listed in the quantities noted as they are very specific about what they can ship. *Thank you for your help.*

## Game night with pizza

Submitted by Irene Steinel



Family game night has become a favorite at Crossroads! You are invited to come enjoy fellowship with other members and friends as we eat pizza and play family and children friendly games. The date is Friday, March 5 from 6–8p.m. at Crossroads Church—*Bring your favorite games and your appetite as well as a package of toilet paper for WNC.*

## Easter Schedule

Submitted by Pastor Sharon Cook

Sunday, March 28 is Palm Sunday. The choir will lead worship with a selection of songs from *Godspell*.

Friday, April 2 is Good Friday. We will host an ecumenical worship service with First Presbyterian and the Assemblies of God church. The service will be at Crossroads at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 4 is Easter. We will worship at 9:30 a.m. A special breakfast will be served from 8-8:45 a.m.



HOLY WEEK



**Crossroads** United Methodist Church  
Where faith and friendship meet  
Phone: (608) 849-9599 Fax: (608) 850-4799  
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www.crossroadswaunakee.org

## Pastor's Page



A friend of mine recently shared some insights from the book *The Connecting Church*, written by Randy Frazee, the senior pastor at the Pantego Bible Church in Arlington, Texas.

In his book, Frazee makes the case that the flip side of the benefits to suburban life is that it's helped to create an individualism that has bred the most intense isolation since the day Adam spent alone on the sixth day of creation.

The result of this intense isolation, Frazee says, is the loss of community that once was an integral part of American life. Fifty years ago, he points out, neighborhoods were busy, bustling villages where life was routinely shared with neighbors and friends. Nowadays, he says, just the opposite is true; it's the exception and not the rule to know your neighbors and share common experiences.

The antidote is to start rebuilding our sense of community, Frazee says, and he offers some practical ideas. In the summer sit out front instead of out back on your patio or deck. Don't be surprised, he says, to soon find yourself having conversations with your neighbors. He also suggests baking a plate of cookies to take to your neighbors once a month for the next six months and see what happens. Or spontaneously invite friends or neighbors over and then order out for pizza.

Church life is no different. Church is the last place you should feel alone in a crowd, but it happens even in the friendliest of churches. How do we then make sure we're building community in our church? Here are a few ideas:

- ~Take time to visit before and after church. Come 15 minutes early and stay 15 minutes after worship.
- ~Follow the rules of 3 and 10. Greet everyone who sits within 10 feet of you during worship. And for the first 3 minutes after worship, speak only to people you don't know or don't know well.
- ~Introduce old friends to someone you just met. Go out for brunch after church and invite old and new friends to go with you.
- ~Join the men's or women's group.
- ~Bring someone to a non-worship event.
- ~Sing in the choir.
- ~Participate in the Ride-Share program, or visit someone who can't come to church anymore.
- ~Have a spontaneous pizza night and invite church friends. If it doesn't work the first time, don't be discouraged. Remember those you invite have schedules just as busy as yours.

American life has changed dramatically since the days when neighbors were truly neighborly and it was commonplace for friends to drop by on the spur of the moment. But there's something we can do about it. We can start building a better sense of community in our neighborhood, with our friends and here at church. But like with so much of life, if something is going to happen, it has to start with you and me.

Grace abounds,

Pastor Sharon

## Cookie Cutter Quilters

Submitted by Lynne Adam



All are welcome to come and sew, learn quilting techniques, as well as fellowship with us. Our next meeting is March 6 at 9:00 am.

## Fair trade coffee and tea



Crossroads is still participating in the UMCOR Fair Trade coffee and tea project. For ordering or questions please contact Sue and Natalie Tietz at 849-4435 or [bobbyonehundred@yahoo.com](mailto:bobbyonehundred@yahoo.com).

## Apportionments making a difference

As Easter draws near, we will be offering you a chance to make a huge difference in global, national and local mission and ministry. Apportionments are the way we work with United Methodist churches around the world to combine our resources and really make a difference.

Look for more information coming in the mail in late March. But also listen up. Because on Sundays March 14 and 21, Pastor Sharon will do a sermon mini-series on what apportionments are, what ministries they support, and how they fit together with other ways of mission giving in The United Methodist Church.

Crossroads is pleased to be a congregation that has paid 100% of its apportionments every year. Join us as we learn more about what that means, and why it's an accomplishment we can be proud of.

## Collect UPC codes

We send in UPCs off of Campbell's products, and get points for free stuff for our Church. But not just Campbell's and not just the UPCs. Go to [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) and see all the great products you buy all the time that you can cut UPCs off of or save the lids! Last year we were able to get a new DVD player. So... if you buy it just remember to cut out the UPC code and bring it in. There is a big Campbell's soup can/bag at the bottom of the stairs by the Youth room. Thanks for your help.



## Bunco March 20, 7:00 pm!

Submitted by the Koch's

Come and have an evening of *fun, fellowship, and good eats*. No special talent needed. If you can roll dice you'll be fine. Bunco will be held at the Koch's house: 6669 Fairway circle in Windsor at 7:00 pm.

Due to limited parking, carpooling would be very helpful. Please call Nancy with any questions and let us know how many are coming so we know how many tables will be needed for the evening. Come out and join us for a fun time.



## “Cash-and-carry”

### now available

Submitted by Patsy Manion



We are happy to announce that beginning in March we will begin our “cash-and-carry” Scrip feature. **Piggly Wiggly, BP, and Kwik Trip cards will be available for immediate purchase.** It will be a first-come first-served basis until our stock runs out. We will still continue to take orders on the first and third Sundays of the month. Don't forget, you can also order cards on line at [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com).

**Plan ahead:** The Scrip office is closed for inventory at the beginning of April. You will only be able to order cards on April 18. “Cash-and-carry” cards will still be available.

We encourage more families at Crossroads to participate in this fundraising program. All monies go directly to ministry programs here. If you have any questions, please call Patsy Manion at 469-1303.

*“Join the fun and shop Scrip!”*

## Men's group



Men's group meets on the first Saturday of every month at 7 a.m. Contact Dave Duchnowski at 849-8836 for more information.

## Devotion

*When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise. Proverbs 10:19*

In the course of the day, each of us interacts with a multitude of people. Some are easy to get along with; others get under our skin and provoke a reaction from us. When you find yourself bristling because of something someone says or does, remember Proverbs' wise words: Hold your tongue! You'll never regret saying too little, and your gentle, thoughtful response will be an example to everyone around you on how to respond to difficult people.

—Marian V. Liautaud

## Those in our prayers



**Prayers of Joy:** Best wishes on birthdays and anniversaries; all those contributing to Haiti; the \$300+ collected from the bake sale for the fire pit bricks; donations to Second Harvest.

**Prayers of Concern:** All those recovering from surgeries and long term illnesses; Cindy Driscoll recovering from surgery; Grace Fonstad recovering from her fall; Jerin Robertson recovering from surgery; Robert von Ruden's dad recovering from heart attack; Cremer family with a son hospitalized in critical condition; Pam Kopf's niece, Tory with advanced Lyme's disease; Eight year old Riley, who will be in ICU for 5-7 days following surgery; those still being laid off from jobs.

**Prayers of Comfort in Grief:** All those who have lost loved ones.

**Prayers for Peace, Justice and Safety:** All our military and their families all around the world; those in Haiti following the earthquake.

## To all committee chairs & group leaders of Crossroads—



There is a place for mail and office material for your group and committee. Please check it frequently as there may be time sensitive materials.

## Stampers

Submitted by Patsy Manion



Calling all stampers...mark your calendars for March 27 from 9-noonish. We will be having a card stamping workshop. Please call Patsy Manion at 469-1303 for more information.

## March Birthdays!



Jennifer Doucette	03/01
Wendy Fahlgren	03/02
Tammy Hribar	03/03
Michael Eastman	03/06
Virginia Gravel	03/09
Michael Tebrinke	03/10
Andrew Doucette	03/11
Daniel Collins	03/12
Robert Hamilton	03/12
Kathy Grant	03/14
Kristen Radke	03/16
Sandy Thompson	03/19
Susan Tietz	03/22
Patsy Manion	03/23
Katie Schmuck	03/23
Dave DeMars	03/26
Dawn Duchnowski	03/27
Marcus Grassl	03/28
Steve Baldwin	03/30
Linda Stouffer	03/30
Mark Grassl	03/31
Michael Steinl	03/31

## Fellowship on Sundays



If you like having fellowship after church on Sundays and enjoy the snacks during fellowship, please see the sign up sheet on the back of the doors that face the sanctuary. If you are interested in providing snacks, please sign up. There are lots of open dates to choose from. For questions please call the office. Thanks for your help.

## Women's group



Women's group will meet at 6:30 p.m., on March 8 at church. We have just started reading a new book by Patsy Clarimont called *Catching Fire Flies...* Great and fast read if you would like to join us. Call Heather at 849-4048 if you would like more information about the book. All women and friends of Crossroads are invited.

## Mark the date for bowling

Submitted by Irene Steinl

Let some good fun and fellowship put you in the right FRAME of mind! We've PINNED down the date for an afternoon of bowling for Crossroads members and friends of all ages and abilities for **Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at Waunabowl in Waunakee.** Can you SPARE the time? This is right down your ALLEY! Don't be a TURKEY -- MARK down this date and watch the bulletin or see Gina Fisher or Irene Steinl for more details. I'd write more, but I gotta SPLIT.

## Friends - Fun - Adventure

A great way spending your summer!

Summer camp is all about laughter, playing, and praying in a community of friends. Come make new friends and meet old ones.

Contact your local church or call the United Methodist Camping Office at

1-877-947-2267

or visit our web site at

[www.WIUMCamps.org](http://www.WIUMCamps.org)



## Next COA's is March 1, 2010



Our Crossroads Older Adults meet monthly for a luncheon prepared by our very own Chef Margo! The next one will be March 12, at 12:30 pm. Your contact for reservations will be Keith Nelson at 849-8728.

## Meetings at Crossroads...

If you are part of a team/committee at Crossroads we encourage you to attend the scheduled meetings. If you are sure you will not be able to attend a scheduled meeting please let someone know. If you have any questions please call the chair person of your team or the church office.

## New fellowship Activities Team formed

Submitted by Irene Steinl

The Crossroads Activities team is hard at work, planning fellowship events for our congregation. All Crossroads members and friends are invited to participate in the events that follow. If you have questions or want to volunteer to help plan any future events please contact; Irene Steinl (chair), Patsy Manion, Regina Fisher, Lurene Swenson or Pattie Hook.

The following activities are currently on the calendar:

- Family pizza and game night March 5 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- March 21: Bunco night at the Koch's at 6:00 pm.
- Saturday, March 27: Stamping workshop hosted by Patsy Manion.
- Sunday, April 18: bowling at Waunabowl

The following ideas for future events include the following:

- Easter Egg Hunt and/or Easter breakfast
- Bowling coming in April
- Mallards game and/or another basketball game
- Zoo trip
- Biking on the bike trails with a possible picnic
- Concert on the square
- Opera in the park in July



## UMCOR relief efforts in Haiti: one month after the quake

By Linda Unger, staff writer for UMCOR communications

One month after a 7.0 earthquake tore through Haiti, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is digging in its heels for a long-term recovery effort in the Caribbean nation.

Since the January 12 disaster, UMCOR has carried out an initial assessment of damages and needs, developed a five-year work plan, and shored up strategic partnerships with the United Nations, NGOs and the Methodist Church in Haiti. The organization has leased office space and hired staff to run the field office which will open next week to advance the work plan.

The UMCOR work plan anticipates three phases of recovery: emergency, recovery and rehabilitation. The emergency phase stretches from the time of the earthquake through April and includes the start of the rainy season in March. It addresses the most immediate needs of access to food, clean water and sanitation, temporary shelter and emotional and spiritual support.

During the recovery phase, which is expected to run through the first year anniversary of the disaster, UMCOR will respond to needs for increasingly permanent homes, schools, clinics and churches; livelihood restoration and income generation, among other concerns.

The third phase, rehabilitation, will likely stretch through January 2015 and will offer assistance for both physical reconstruction and economic development as well as rebuilding systems, like health and education.



## Gifts to support UMCOR's Relief Efforts in Haiti Top \$11 Million

By Linda Unger, staff writer for UMCOR communications

The first 30 days since the earthquake has seen a great outpouring of solidarity with Haiti from United Methodists and many other people of goodwill across the US.

Generous supporters have contributed more than \$11 million to UMCOR's Haiti recovery plan, as well as the components for more than 350,000 health kits, which are positioned to distribute in Haiti as soon as circumstances allow.

Offers of help have come in other forms, too, including supplies like toothpaste, volunteers at UMCOR West and UMCOR Sager Brown, and layette kits. According to Kathy Kraiza, who manages the relief supplies, with babies being born into temporary shelters among the rubble left by the earthquake, there is a need for clean swaddling clothes to wrap the newborns.

Brentwood United Methodist Church in Brentwood, Tenn., raised \$150,000 for UMCOR's Haiti recovery work. A concert the church sponsored brought in \$50,000, and three weeks of Sunday collections brought in the rest.

And one little boy, Daniel, sent an UMCOR Hearts for Haiti card to a counterpart in Haiti: "Dear 5-year-old boy," he wrote, "I want to send money to you. I hope God brings you a miracle. Love, Daniel." Enclosed with the note was Daniel's allowance, \$1.65.

"The response of the church has been remarkable and generous," said Bishop Joel Martinez, General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) interim general secretary. "Even the smallest gift has the power to bless."

Every gift will be important as UMCOR rolls out its five-year work plan for Haiti recovery.

# My perspective on Haiti

By Grant Gardow

Hi Everyone. I thought I would give you an update on my perspective of what's happening here in Haiti. The TV cameras are gone. The reporters are gone and Dad tells me that the newspapers have little to say. However, the day-to-day task of getting Haiti back on its feet continues.

Little battles are being won on a daily basis. This week, the Navy Sea Bees and the Air Force Red Horse Unit, both heavy construction groups, were able to open a small portion of the sea port at Port-Au-Prince. Now relief items can begin to be unloaded there. They were able to accomplish this even though we experience strong aftershocks on an almost daily basis. There were two last Friday.

Additionally, the Dominican Republic – often at odds with Haiti – has allowed us to open a second Air Base in their country and they are letting in a limited number of Haitian refugees. God sure works in strange ways.

Our over-the-mountain truck convoys are working around the clock to get food and water in to Haiti. They deliver them to our good friends of the 82nd Airborne. There is a real vacuum in leadership by the Haitian Government, but the people of the 82nd have really stepped up to the plate. Everyone gets food and water on a regular basis.

The people of Haiti eat and drink the same things as we do, which is the modern version of “K” rations. Today they are called MREs or Meals Ready to Eat and they are quite good. My favorite and that of a lot of Haitians is the beef stew. Each person is given bottled water and an MRE. The MRE consists of something like a bag of pretzels and the main course. The main course is dehydrated, so you add a little bit of water to it and slip it back into the foil pouch it came in. For lack of a better explanation, a small stove inside the envelope cooks the food for five minutes and then you have a very good hot meal. It's topped off by perhaps a cookie or M&M's.

Our next big project is supplying temporary shelter. Tents have been promised, but only about 5,000 have made it here so far and with the rainy season coming shortly, this presents a real problem. Many Haitians are going back into the ruins of their former homes for shelter. With the aftershocks, this presents a very serious problem. But I'm sure God will help us work this out as well.

I'd like to leave you with this thought: The harder you work gathering the things that are needed here, the harder we have to work and we love hard work. It will also allow us to stay here longer to help these wonderful people. God bless all that you have done and continue to do. (Grant Gardow is the son of pastor Bruce Gardow from the Durand United Methodist Church and a Senior Airman attached to the 573rd Global Support Squadron of the United States Air Force). (This article was published in early February.)



# A Stewardship Message for Your Church

submitted by the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

When the Foundation received \$44,100 in year end gifts for the United Methodist Committee on Relief’s emergency fund (UMCOR) and World Hunger, I remember wondering what kind of disaster needs we’d be faced with in the next year. By mid-January, we were dealing with an earthquake in Haiti and mud slides in California.

The Haitian earthquake occurred on January 12<sup>th</sup>. On February 12, the 2010 version of “We Are the World” debuted during the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics. Since its release, the original 1985 original version of “We Are the World”, by USA for Africa, has raised over \$63 million for humanitarian causes. Ninety percent of the money was pledged to African relief, both long and short term. The remaining 10 percent of funds was earmarked for domestic hunger and homeless programs in the United States.

It will be exciting to see how the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary version of “We Are the World,” will benefit the recovery efforts in Haiti and more. The 2010 version will feature updated lyrics and music, as well as a rap segment pertaining to Haiti. The original chorus still provides us with some good food for thought:

*We are the world, We are the children  
We are the ones who make a brighter day  
So let’s start giving.  
There’s a choice we’re making  
We’re saving our own lives  
It’s true we’ll make a better day  
Just you and me.*

Stewardship is about all the choices we’re making today and tomorrow about how to use the gifts God has given us. Are we simply saving our own lives? Or will we choose to make this world a better place for all God’s children?

## Culvers helps support the Waunakee food pantry

Submitted by the WEB

Support the Waunakee Food Pantry while you feed your hunger at Culver's. On Monday, March 22 from 4:30-8:30pm. *Culver's of Waunakee will donate 10% of sales to the Waunakee Food Pantry.* Stop by Culver's and enjoy a delicious meal or snack and help conquer hunger one family at a time! Thank you, the Food Pantry and Waunakee Ecumenical Board

### Monthly CUMC meetings:

Activities.....	Irene Steinl, chair
Church Council ~ 3rd Thursday .....	Sean Murray, chair
Finance ~3th Thursday .....	Jim Walker, chair
Trustees~2nd Monday .....	Julie Frentz, chair
SPRC~2nd Thursday .....	Charlene Khazae, chair
Men’s Group~1st Saturday .....	Dave Duchnowski
Women’s Group~2nd Monday .....	Heather Murray
Outreach~2nd Tuesday .....	Lurene Swenson, chair
Adult Choir~ Every Wednesday (Memorial Day through Labor day) .....	Bill Hofeldt, Music director
W.E.B. Meeting~ 3rd. Tuesday .....	Terri Willihnganz, CUMC representative
Quilters ~ First Monday (winter first Saturday).....	Lynne Adam

*Please contact the group chair for information as the meetings are subject to change.*

**Crossroads United Methodist Church**  
**5901 Hogan Rd.**  
**Waunakee, WI 53597**

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### **Worship at Crossroads**

**9:30-10:30am**~ Sunday Worship

**10:30am**~ all of the following:  
Hospitality & Refreshment Time (all ages)  
Sunday School (Pre-school - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Youth check- in Time

**Come for any part of the morning,  
or stay for all of it!**

### **Crossroads church leadership roster**

Sharon Cook..... Pastor  
Pattie Hook..... Assistant to the Pastor & Newsletter Editor  
Bill Hofeldt .....Music Director  
April Kang .....Pianist  
Roselyn Warren .....Accompanist  
Keith Nelson.....Custodian  
Lynne Adam ..... Treasurer & Church Council, Vice Chair  
Linda Stouffer & Loree von Ruden Sunday School Coordinators  
Steve Harman..... Lay Leader  
Christine Erickson.....Web Page Coordinator  
Bruce & Jennifer Koch, Tressie Hook.....Youth Ministries  
Patsy Manion.....Scrip Chair  
Tressie Hook.....Childcare

The mission of the United Methodist Church is;  
“to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

The mission of the Wisconsin Conference is:  
“Live, Give, Love...Beyond all expectation.”

The purpose of Crossroads UMC is:  
“to provide the greatest experience of God to the greatest number of people.”