

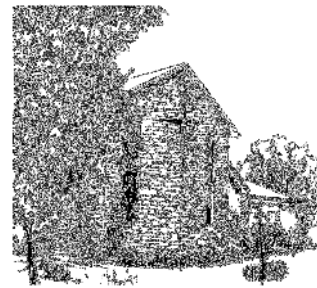


# FRIENDSHIP

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FELLOWSHIP

*The Voice of Friendship*



Volume 2, Issue 1

FUMC Web Address: [www.friendshipumc.info](http://www.friendshipumc.info)

January 25, 2010

## Bearing Fruit



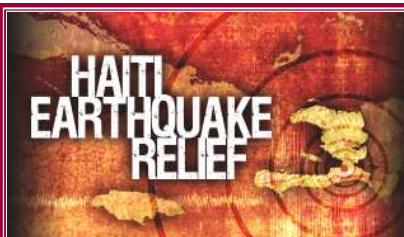
Bearing fruit is what Christian discipleship is all about. We may be saints in terms of ethical and moral purity. We may have the Ten Commandments memorized backwards and forwards, and we may be able to recite the Sermon on the Mount and scarcely miss a syllable. We may pray prayers that make the angels weep and the archangels shout "hallelujah;" but if we are not bearing fruit we have missed the meaning of discipleship. The priest and the Levite who passed by on the other side in the story of the Good Samaritan were men devoted to the word, devoted to the law, and devoted to moral and spiritual purity. But they were not bearing fruit. Lazarus sat outside the gate of a rich man who was a successful businessman and probably a pillar of his community, but his wealth had blinded him to the beggar lying at his gates. He ended up in hell because he wasn't bearing fruit. In Luke 13, Jesus told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. He said to the gardener, 'Lo, these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?'" Jesus not only told that parable but He himself had an encounter with such a fig tree. What did He do with the fig tree that was not bearing fruit? He cursed it. Budding blossoms are nice, but bearing fruit is what's important in God's kingdom.

Jesus' early disciples answered their Master's call to bear fruit. They gave their lives to tell the good news about Jesus and His love. The early church's great harvest of souls was grown on soil fertilized with martyrs' blood.

Benjamin Franklin learned that plaster sown in the fields would make things grow better. He told his neighbors, but they did not believe him. They argued with him, trying to prove that plaster could be of no

use at all to grass or grain. After a little while he dropped the matter and said nothing more about it. But he went into the field early the following spring and sowed more grain. Close by the path, where people would walk, he traced some letters with his finger, put plaster in them, and then sowed his seed in the field. After a week or two the seed sprang up. His neighbors, as they passed that way, were very much surprised to see, in brighter green than all the rest of the field, the writing in large letters, "This has been plastered." Benjamin Franklin did not need to argue

*(Continued on page 2)*



Shortly after the Haiti earthquake, we solicited contributions in our Sunday worship services. We thank you for gifts totally \$3037 which will help those in need. Of

note, your gifts were sent to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), and 100% of your dollars went to Haiti for food, clothing, and shelter. Thanks for your generosity! If you would care to share an additional gift, please make your check to Friendship United Methodist Church and indicated "Haiti" on the notation line. We will then forward these additional gifts as well. Thanks again!

Please plan to worship with us at the following Lenten services:

**April 2 (Good Friday):**  
**7:00 PM (Holy Communion)**

**April 4 Easter Worship at**  
**9:30 and 11:00 am**  
**in the Sanctuary**

↵ Mable Ratcliff  
 ↵ Bob Webb  
 ↵ Al Witt  
 ↵ Cornelia Nash  
 ↵ Violet Merten  
 ↵ Linda Weber  
 ↵ Don & Joan Arbogast  
 ↵ Ginny Mund  
 ↵ Nola Godfrey  
 ↵ Rick Reinhardt  
 ↵ Fennema family  
 ↵ Mike D'Agostino  
 ↵ Pam & Tom Massung  
 ↵ Mack & Ruth McCall  
 ↵ Haitian victims



(Continued from page 1)

further with his neighbors regarding the benefit of plaster for the fields. For as the season passed and the grain continued to grow, these bright green letters rose above all the rest of the field to announce to everyone who looked that "This has been plastered." "By your fruits shall all men know that you are my disciples." But how do we obtain such fruits? How can we live such winning lives? You grow good fruit by having good roots. As Jesus said on another occasion: "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its fruit. For figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good man out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil man out of his evil treasure produces evil; for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." (Luke 6:43-45). Our roots determine the fruit we bear. Where is your life rooted? Our roots determine our fruits, and it's vitally important we nourish those roots.

Maybe we need to return to the building blocks of our faith. The United Methodist Church has identified the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* (also known as the Core Process): Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-taking Mission and Service and Extravagant Generosity. The United Methodist Church has asked the local church to make each building block one of excellence to avoid a crumbling foundation. I'm calling you to share in that vision!

Bishop Robert Schnase writes, "people are searching for a church shaped and sustained by these qualities. The presence and strength of these five practices demonstrate congregational health, vitality, and fruitfulness. By repeating and improving these practices, churches fulfill their mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Roots and fruits. We need one to develop the other. Jesus had no regard for a fig tree that didn't bear fruit. Bearing fruit is what a fig tree is supposed to do. So is following Jesus. In order to bear the fruit of faith, we must be rooted in worship and prayer, in the study of God's Word and in the fellowship of saints. Both roots and fruits are essential to authentic and successful Christian living.

*Pastor Stu*

Pastor Stu

#### **Our "Manna" List from Valley Interfaith:**

Your dedication to our mission of "Helping our Neighbors in Need" is so appreciated. Month after month, we are amazed at how everyone pulls together to help us stop hunger in our surrounding neighborhoods. The following items are what we need the most:

**Ramen noodles, crackers, canned spinach, tuna and canned juice, vegetable soup, bar soap, toothpaste, large plastic shopping bags (dept. store type) and empty containers (24 oz cottage cheese/11.5 oz coffee cans).**

Please call Valley Interfaith for further information. (513) 821-3233. Items may be dropped off in the red container outside Pastor Stu's office. Contact Bob Draeger if you have any questions. *Thank you in advance!*

**SANDWICH SATURDAY, March 6th in Thomas Family Hall, 9:00 am**

*Come join us!*



**The MAR-APR issue of the Upper Room is available!**

## Southwestern Supper

*Please join us for a Southwestern Supper to support the FUMC Senior High Youth Mission Trip to Kaibeto, Arizona this summer.*



**Sunday, March 7  
doors open at 5:15 pm**

Thomas Family Hall

Cost: Free-will donation

All donations go directly to cover supplies for the mission trip.

RSVP to reserve your meal by **March 3**

Contact Gwen Jaeger at 821-6717 or [mjaeger1@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mjaeger1@cinci.rr.com)

Carry out dinners are available upon request.  
Please specify: pork/chicken/vegetarian

Be sure to check out our Silent Auction tables in the lobby! Some items available are: Two tickets to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and an over-night stay at the Cleveland Marriott, a book basket, jewelry, a food sealer and several pieces of furniture.



Please mark your calendars for April 12, from 4-7 PM for a **PRODUCT SURVEY** in Thomas Family Hall. Proceeds of this

survey will

help fund the senior high mission trip. If we have 100 people show up for the survey, we will receive a bonus. The senior high is grateful for the support of the congregation.

# SENIOR HIGH NEWS

The Senior High thanks you for your continued support of the HIS FLOCK program. We will continue to go to Over the Rhine until May to spread God's love in the form of clean socks, new toiletries and clothes. **We are in constant need of men's jeans, sweatshirts and coats.** There is a box by the coat rack in the education hallway for collection or you may place your items in the back stairwell to the senior high room. Thank you!

## SHOP TO SUPPORT SENIOR HIGH

One of the things God is teaching me this year is that help comes from unexpected places. Here's one of the examples. I didn't look at this possibility. It just landed in my lap. Joseph Beth Booksellers will have coupons available at the Paul Young event to help fund the Senior High Mission Trip. **The coupon will run from February 21 until March 15** and of all the sales of books and items in their store during this time, we get 20% and any food purchased in the cafe we get 10%. That is 3 weeks of buying time. The coupons will be in the store so people going to the store can see them. Customers just need to let sales people know that they are there to support the youth group. If you are planning on going out to eat during that time, might we suggest the Cafe at Joseph Beth Booksellers in Rookwood Commons? If you are thinking about buying Mother's Day or Father's Day or graduation presents and cards, perhaps using the coupon at Joseph Beth is a way you can help. Please tell family and friends about this sale. A copy of the coupon is included to make this super easy to use! Thanks, Carrie



**JOSEPH-BETH BOOKSELLERS**  
is proud to support Friendship United Methodist Church

**20% of your bookstore purchase  
and 10% in Bronte Bistro**  
will be donated back to FUMC Youth Group

Valid through March 15, 2010

*(Excludes giftcards, newspapers, and items discounted 20% or more)*

Joseph-Beth Booksellers—Rookwood Pavilion—2692 Madison Road, Cincinnati, OH  
513-396-8960—[www.josephbeth.com](http://www.josephbeth.com)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<b>28</b> <b>9:00 AM - 9:15 AM</b> Pray for our Church Group - C/L <b>9:30 AM - 10:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship - S <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Chapel Worship - C/L <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Service - TFH <b>2:00 PM - 3:30 PM</b> New Member Class - TR <b>3:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Blue & Gold Banquet - TFH, K <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Cast in Bronze - MR	<b>1</b> <b>6:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Connect Planning mtg. - MR <b>7:00 PM - 8:15 PM</b> Cub Scout Den 10 - EW, Rm 104 <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cub Scout Den 5 - EW, Rm 106 <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cub Scout Den 7 - TR <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cub Scout Dens 8 & 9 mtg - EW 103, 105 <b>7:00 PM</b> Membership - C/L <b>7:15 PM - 9:45 PM</b> Color Slide Group - LLA	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM</b> Men/Women Share group - N <b>10:00 AM</b> FUMW Craft & Chat - LL Art Rm <b>4:00 PM - 5:25 PM</b> Ring & Sing (Gr. 1-7) - CL/TR/MR <b>4:30 PM - 5:00 PM</b> Preschool Choir - Narthex <b>5:15 PM - 6:30 PM</b> Wednesday Night Dinner - K, TFH <b>6:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Childcare/Supervised Study Hall - EW-N <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Children's Bible study, crafts, projects - EW-S <b>6:00 PM - 7:00 PM</b> Higher Ground Choir (Gr. 7-12) - MR <b>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir (Adult) - C/L <b>8:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Spirit Wind - MR
<b>7</b> Sharon Meyer on vacation <b>9:00 AM - 9:15 AM</b> Pray for our Church Group - C/L <b>9:30 AM - 10:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship - S <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Chapel Worship - C/L <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Service - TFH <b>12:00 PM - 4:00 PM</b> Jr. High @ Rockquest - offsite <b>12:00 PM</b> Sr. High Mission Trip Dinner set up - TFH, K <b>5:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Sr. High Mission Trip Dinner - TFH, K <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Cast in Bronze - MR	<b>8</b> <b>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Preschool Bike-a-thon - TFH <b>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM</b> Preschool Bike-a-thon - TFH <b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cub Scouts, Den 3-Rm 104 <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cub Scout Den 10 - EW, Rm 106 <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cub Scout Dens 8 & 9 mtg - EW 103, 105	<b>9</b> <b>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Preschool Bike-a-thon - TFH <b>11:30 AM - 2:00 PM</b> League of Women Voters - EW Rm 103 <b>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM</b> Preschool Bike-a-thon - TFH <b>3:30 PM - 4:30 PM</b> G.S. Tr. 43330 - EW, 103	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM</b> Men/Women Share group - Narthex <b>10:00 AM</b> FUMW monthly meeting - Library <b>4:00 PM - 5:25 PM</b> Ring & Sing (Gr. 1-7) - CL/TR/MR <b>5:15 PM - 6:30 PM</b> Wednesday Night Dinner - K, TFH <b>6:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Childcare/Supervised Study Hall - EW-N <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Children's Bible study, crafts, projects - EW-S <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Journey to Jerusalem - TFH <b>6:00 PM - 6:30 PM</b> Preschool Choir - MR <b>7:30 PM - 8:30 PM</b> Canvass f/CROPWALK - offsite <b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir (Adult) - C/L <b>8:30 PM - 9:30 PM</b> Pizza after canvass - TFH
<b>14</b> <b>9:00 AM - 9:15 AM</b> Pray for our Church Group - C/L <b>9:30 AM - 10:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship - S <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Chapel Worship - C/L <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Service - TFH <b>12:15 PM - 1:15 PM</b> Education mtg. - Rm 103 <b>12:15 PM</b> Trustee Meeting - TR <b>3:00 PM</b> His Flock - offsite <b>3:30 PM - 5:00 PM</b> Three Trees Musical rehearsal - C/L <b>6:00 PM - 7:00 PM</b> Higher Ground Choir - MR <b>6:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b> Marjorie Book Continuing Ed. troupe - LLA <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cast in Bronze - MR	<b>15</b>  <b>6:40 PM - 8:20 PM</b> Den #4 mtg. @ 7 - TR <b>7:15 PM - 9:45 PM</b> Color Slide Group - LLA	<b>16</b> <b>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</b> Stu @ Affinity Cluster group - offsite <b>2:00 PM - 4:00 PM</b> Cook/Set up f/Prime Time - , TFH <b>7:00 PM</b> SPR committee - TR	<b>17</b> <b>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM</b> Men/Women Share group - Narthex <b>11:30 AM - 2:00 PM</b> Prime Time - TFH, K <b>4:00 PM - 5:25 PM</b> Ring & Sing (Gr. 1-7) - CL/TR/MR <b>5:15 PM - 6:30 PM</b> Wednesday Night Dinner - K, TFH <b>6:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Childcare/Supervised Study Hall - EW-N <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Children's Bible study, crafts, projects - EW-S <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Journey to Jerusalem - TFH <b>6:00 PM - 6:30 PM</b> Preschool Choir - MR <b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir (Adult) - C/L
<b>21</b> <b>9:00 AM - 9:15 AM</b> Pray for our Church Group - C/L <b>9:30 AM - 10:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship - S <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Chapel Worship - C/L <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Service - TFH <b>5:30 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Star Search IV - TFH, K	<b>22</b> <i>"Voice" mailed</i> <b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Cub Scouts, Den 3-Rm 104 <b>6:15 PM - 8:30 PM</b> Cub Scout Pack 82 mtg. @ 7PM - TFH <b>7:00 PM</b> Admin Council - C/L	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM</b> Men/Women Share group - Narthex <b>4:00 PM - 5:25 PM</b> Ring & Sing (Gr. 1-7) - CL/TR/MR <b>4:15 PM - 5:15 PM</b> Three Trees Musical rehearsal - S <b>5:15 PM - 6:30 PM</b> Wednesday Night Dinner - K, TFH <b>6:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Childcare/Supervised Study Hall - EW-N <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Children's Bible study, crafts, projects - EW-S <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Journey to Jerusalem - TFH <b>6:00 PM - 6:30 PM</b> Preschool Choir - MR <b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir (Adult) - C/L
<b>28</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 9:15 AM</b> Pray for our Church Group - C/L <b>9:30 AM - 10:30 AM</b> Traditional Worship - S <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Chapel Worship - C/L <b>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Service - TFH	<b>29</b> <b>7:15 PM - 9:45 PM</b> Color Slide Group - LLA	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM</b> Men/Women Share group - Narthex <b>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM</b> Seder Meal - TFH <b>6:00 PM - 7:30 PM</b> Journey to Jerusalem - TFH <b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir (Adult) - C/L

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>4</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM</b> Beth Moore's Book of Daniel study - TR  <b>10:00 AM - 1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting - Library  <b>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM</b> 24 Hours that Changed the World - TR  <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> 90 Minutes in Heaven study - C/L  <b>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - TFH</p>	<p><b>5</b>  <b>12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</b> Connect set up - TFH  <b>2:00 PM - 5:00 PM</b> Cook f/Mission trip dinner - K</p>	<p><b>6</b>                      Confirmation Retreat - offsite (return Sunday)  <b>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Caledonian Pipers - LLA or outside  <b>9:00 AM - 10:15 AM</b> Sandwich Saturday - TFH, K  <b>10:15 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Band rehearsal - TFH  <b>12:00 PM - 3:00 PM</b> Cook for Mission trip dinner - K</p>
<p><b>11</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM</b> Beth Moore's Book of Daniel study - TR  <b>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Preschool Bike-a-thon - TFH  <b>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM</b> Preschool Bike-a-thon - TFH  <b>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM</b> 24 Hours that Changed the World - TR  <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> 90 Minutes in Heaven study - C/L  <b>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - TFH</p>	<p><b>12</b>  <b>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Preschool Bike-a-thon - TFH  <b>12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</b> Connect set up - TFH</p>	<p><b>13</b>  <b>9:30 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Band rehearsal - TFH</p>
<p><b>18</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM</b> Beth Moore's Book of Daniel study - TR  <b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> G.S. Tr. 41966 - EW Rm 103  <b>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM</b> 24 Hours that Changed the World - TR  <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> 90 Minutes in Heaven study - C/L  <b>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - TFH  <b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Cub Scout committee mtg. - EW</p>	<p><b>19</b>  <b>12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</b> Connect set up - TFH  <b>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM</b> Jr. High serving at R. McDonald House - offsite</p>	<p><b>20</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Caledonian Pipers - LLA or outside  <b>9:30 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Band rehearsal - TFH  <b>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM</b> Sr. High, Free-store Foodbank- offsite  <b>6:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b> Marjorie Book Continuing Ed. troupe - LLA</p>
<p><b>25</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM</b> Beth Moore's Book of Daniel study - TR  <b>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM</b> 24 Hours that Changed the World - TR  <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> 90 Minutes in Heaven study - C/L  <b>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts - TFH</p>	<p><b>26</b>  <b>12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</b> Connect set up - TFH</p>	<p><b>27</b>  <b>9:30 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Connect Band rehearsal - TFH  <b>12:00 PM - 1:30 PM</b> Three Trees Musical Dress rehearsal - S  <b>6:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b> Marjorie Book Continuing Ed. troupe - LLA</p>
<p><b>1</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM</b> Beth Moore's Book of Daniel study - TR  <b>10:00 AM - 1:00 PM</b> Staff Meeting - Library  <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> 90 Minutes in Heaven study - C/L</p>	<p><b>2</b>                        GOOD FRIDAY                      OFFICE CLOSED  <b>12:00 PM - 2:00 PM</b> Connect set up - TFH  <b>7:00 PM</b> Worship Service - S</p>	<p><b>3</b>  <b>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Caledonian Pipers - LLA or outside  <b>9:00 AM - 10:15 AM</b> Sandwich Saturday - TFH, K</p>

# MARCH

# 2010

**CHURCH FACILITY LEGEND:**

SANCTUARY -  
 CHAPEL/LOUNGE -  
 CHAPEL -  
 TRAINING ROOM -  
 NARTHEX -  
 LOWER LEVEL ACTIVITY -  
 KITCHEN -

S  
 C/L  
 CHAP.  
 TR  
 NARTHEX  
 LLA  
 K

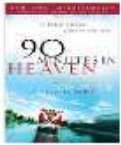
THOMAS FAMILY HALL - TFH  
 EDUCATION WING - N EWN  
 EDUCATION WING - S EWS  
 FRIENDSHIP CENTER - FC  
 MUSIC ROOM - MR  
 JR. HIGH CLASS - JR. H.

# Friendship's Lenten Experiences

## Bible studies

Thursday Evenings beginning February 18th

24 Hours That Changed the World



90 Minutes in Heaven



## Journey to Jerusalem



Wednesday Evenings, 6-7:15 pm

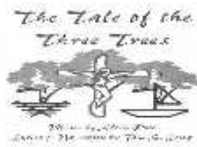
March 10-March 31~ Thomas Family Hall

a Multi Media Teaching and

Worship Experience of The Holy Land

### Palm Sunday

March 28 ~ 9:30 Service



### Seder Meal

March 31 5pm Thomas Family Hall

# WORSHIP SERIES

## March 7-April 4

### Encounters with Christ

- March 7—Jesus and the Man Born Blind
- March 14—Jesus and Mary and Martha
- March 21—Jesus and James and John
- March 28—He Could Have Called  
Ten Thousand Angels
- April 2—The Way of the Cross  
(Guided Meditation)
- April 4—Jesus and Mary Magdalene

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
Wednesday, March  
10th, from 10 AM—  
12 PM in the Library  
Lounge.



FUMW members and friends will meet to discuss the book, “The Fence My Father Built” by Linda S. Clare. The book is about a single mom searching for her roots and her faith. Copies are available in the church library or from the public library. Join us for coffee, munchies and stimulating discussion. *We would welcome YOU!* For more information, please call Marilyn Yungk, 771-1121.



**Potluck dinner and talent show**  
**March 21, 2010**  
**5:00 PM – 7:30 PM**

Dinner begins at 5:00 PM. Main dishes and drinks will be provided by the Membership Committee. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. After dinner, enjoy performances by some of the most talented people in our congregation. If you would like to share YOUR talent, sign up on Sunday mornings at the Star Search booth. If you have questions, call Ruth Nicklet 245-2342.



**2010 Finance Update**

**February 14, 2010**

On Sunday, January 31, we began a process to report Friendship's financial situation to the Congregation. We ended 2009 with a loss and our cash reserves had been reduced to a critical level.

We also reported that pledging and anticipated income for 2010 did not meet budget requests to support our programs, ministries, and mission outreach. We had a large "shortfall."

	<u>2010 Budget Request</u>	<u>The "Gap"</u>	<u>Pledges/Other Income</u>
Jan. 31	\$748,000	<b>\$133,000</b>	\$615,000
Feb. 7	\$706,000	<b>\$41,000</b>	\$665,000
Feb. 14	\$706,000	\$0	\$706,000

God spoke to and continues to speak to Friendship! As of this past Sunday, we have closed the "Gap" through increased giving and some budget reductions. We have received new pledges, faith pledges, and pledge increases totaling \$91,000 since initiating this process.

The budget reductions do not include any reduction in our excellent staff and only minor reductions in programs. It does include reductions in facility maintenance and in Conference and District Apportionments.

We deeply appreciate the Congregation's prayerful response. Despite the difficult economic times, you have shown your belief in Friendship and in our mission.

Please contact a member of the Finance Committee if you have questions.

May God continue to bless our Friendship family,

FUMC Finance Committee



**A New Prayer Group** - Every Sunday, we will meet

from 9-9:15 AM each Sunday (in the Chapel) throughout Lent to pray for our church. If you are interested or want additional details, please contact Marsha Redmon by emailing— [mredmon@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mredmon@cinci.rr.com) or by phone 821-3268.

Please keep all our confirmands in your prayers as they



continue their formation process during their **Confirmation Retreat** the first weekend in March. *Thank you!*

# Survivor

On January 29, Friendship hosted the first Brotherhood In Christ, a retreat for boys in grades 4th-8th. Led by Trent Richardson, with a Survival Theme, the boys learned about Internet safety, team building, and had a Q & A session with Pastor Stu. They also wrote letters to Pastor Wells' grandson that is serving in the military and stationed in Iraq. THANKS to Trent and all the wonderful volunteers who helped make a great evening for these boys!



FRIENDSHIP UMC  
 1025 SPRINGFIELD PIKE  
 CINCINNATI, OH 45215

Phone: 513-821-5725  
 Fax: 513-821-6060

**Dated Material  
 Please Expedite**

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 PERMIT #262



*Prime Time*

*Familiar Tunes with a Twist—Wild Carrot Musical Duo*



Wednesday, March 17, 2010  
 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM  
 (Thomas Family Hall)  
 (\$5 per person)

(Detach and Place in Offering Plate, or return to Church Office)



**Prime Time**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ # in Party \_\_\_\_\_

*RSVP by Noon, Monday, Mar. 15th  
 513-821-5725 x0*

The next "Voice" will be published  
 MARCH 22ND and will have a deadline of  
 Tuesday, MARCH 15TH!

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**We're on the web!  
 www.friendshipumc.info**