



The Banner

February 2012

Barrington United Methodist Church

"The Lord Is My Banner" —Exodus 17:15

Angels Among Us

Meet Joanne Naggatz. She's an angel—a card angel—in BUMC's card angel ministry. She and 12 other angels at BUMC send cards of hope and encouragement several times a month to a person in need for as long as their situation requires. Many of the card buddies, persons receiving cards, are listed in the bulletin as "Those Undergoing Medical Treatment," and most are not members of BUMC but are friends or family of church members.

Each person in need is assigned their own card angel. Card buddy progress is updated quarterly so that card angels can be aware of current needs. Several card angels have been sending cards to their same card buddy for a number of years—some as long as five years!

Joanne first experienced the joy of encouraging others with Chemo Angels, a volunteer organization dedicated to support those undergoing IV chemo treatment. "I sent cards and small gifts of hope and encouragement to my 'chemo buddy' in Virginia who was undergoing chemo therapy."

Joanne started the Card Angel program as a part of the Member Care Ministry Group. "Following the healing of my oldest son from lymphoma in 2005, I started the card angel ministry at BUMC as an expression of my gratitude for God's restoration of my son's health. Having been through a similar situation myself and later with my son, it was easy to put myself in someone else's shoes to write a note of encouragement and hope. I know how difficult it can be and that much of the battle is in the mind."

Anyone can become a card angel by contacting Joanne at jsnaggatz@hotmail.com. The program averages about one new referral a month, so more "angels" are always needed to send cards. Be an angel!



"Encouraging others has become a passion of mine!" says Joanne Naggatz, one of BUMC's Card Angels.

The Caring Ministries of BUMC

Shawl Ministry- hand knitted shawls are prayed over and delivered to those in need of comfort.

Traveling Tea Party- tea and company for the home bound in our congregation.

Card Angels- words of encouragement (see the story at left.)

Congregational Care- home-cooked meals delivered to those under medical care and unable to cook.

New Mom Baskets- gift baskets delivered to new mothers in the congregation.

Sunday Greeters and Coffee Hosts

Contact **Janeen Hamack** at jhamack@sbcglobal.net for more information about any of these ministries or to volunteer.

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ASH WEDNESDAY

An Ash Wednesday Worship Service with imposition of ashes will be held on Wednesday, **February 22** at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Pastor's Column



I once asked the confirmation class members which of the Ten Commandments they thought was the most difficult for people to obey. The question created a good deal of discussion and some interesting results. One member suggested "not to bear false witness," that is not to tell a lie. He said that there were times when it might be the best thing to tell

a lie and cited a case where a man with a gun is holding your family hostage and one member is hiding upstairs in a closet. When the man asks if there is anyone else in the house, it might be best to lie. Another suggested the commandment not to covet would be hard to obey, especially when others have something new. But I found a third response most interesting and quite insightful for a confirmand. She said, "I think keeping the Sabbath holy and not working would be the most difficult because we are told to work hard and get ahead." I think she might be right.

Given our "success oriented" society filled with persons working and doing everything they can to get ahead and make money, keeping the Sabbath seems at best a rather antiquated idea. What would happen to our economy if stores were not open on Sunday and people were not working in them? On the other hand, the commandment is a reminder that even God rested on the "seventh day," and is said to have "hallowed it," that is, made it holy. What this suggests is a day of rest and recreation is built into the created order for us. Many psychologists and others in the medical community point out failing to rest and recreate is a major health concern for Americans.

Pastor Jim Wilson

As I thought about this and my own tendency to fail to obey the commandment to observe the Sabbath, I was reminded of a place in the western part of central Scotland. This place is located near Loch Lomond. It bears the unusual name of "Rest and Be Thankful." It is a mountain pass noted for its breathtaking view. It got its name in the days before cars when a person had to slog their way through a long uphill climb to get there. Once you topped the crest of the hill, however, you found yourself in a broad level place with a spectacular vista; a sight made sweeter by the knowledge that "the road was all downhill from there."

"Rest and Be Thankful" is a good reminder of the call to observe a Sabbath. The Sabbath offers us a time to rest and be renewed by the grace of God in Christ and at the same time an opportunity to give thanks to God. I would suggest that both rest and gratitude have a renewing impact on our spirits which frees us to live more fully. So may we "Rest and Be Thankful!" -JMW



Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Cynthia Anderson



Gracious God:

Thank you. Thank you for being a God of love and graciousness, of compassion and forgiveness, of healing and peace. We are grateful that you meet us as we come from so many different places, from so many situations that worry us and distract us. We rush in and rush out, caught up in an endless list of things to do, feeling compelled to be successful, productive, and to have everything together – all of the time. In these moments, will you help us to put all of the rushing aside, to simply take a deep breath in your presence, to breath in the quiet peace of your love, the strength of your compassion and the healing of your forgiveness and to breath out the anxieties, the fears, the resentments and wounds we carry around. Help us to place it all at your feet, to let go and to let you fill us and direct our hearts and minds and spirits. In moments of quiet, fill us with that deep sense of peace that comes from loving you and most of all from trusting that you love each of us beyond measure. Help us to relax into your presence.

As you remind us of your love and care for each of us and for those whose names are on our lips and in our hearts, remind us also that you love each person in the world with that intensity of grace and compassion. Ignite within us a deep concern for our brothers and sisters around the world. And help us to respond to your loving touch in our lives by reaching out to be the hands and feet and voice of your mercy and healing in the world. That can sound like such a big and overwhelming thing to us, O God, but show us the hundreds of small ways, in our routine everyday interactions with those around us, that we can be the vehicle of your love and peace in the world. Every time we choose to respond to provocation or ill-temper with patience and restraint. Every time we choose to stop keeping count or nursing the wrongs done to us and to instead practice forgiveness and a letting go of the past. Every time we choose to offer a word of kindness or encouragement to someone who is discouraged or frazzled. So many ways to share your love. So many opportunities to be a vehicle of your peace in a broken and fragmented world. Open us to the work of your Spirit in our lives, empower us, lift us beyond ourselves, help us to stretch and grow in ways that enable us to really embody your love in all that we say and do in every day that you give us. Amen.

February Calendar 2012 For the most up to date information go to barringtonumc.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Drop In 9:15 AM Adult Study 9:15 AM Adult Study/Crazy Love 9:15 AM Confirmation Class 9:15 AM Homebuilders 1 & 2 9:15 AM Sr. High Prayer & Share 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:30 PM Youth Group	30 6:30 PM Flutes Unlimited 7:30 PM BSA 10 Activity Shirt Mtg 7:30 PM Leadership Council	31 6:30 PM Standing Fund Raising Ministry	1 8:00 AM UM Foundation 9:15 AM Mom's Study 7:00 PM Disciple I 7:30 PM Handbells	2 9:30 AM WOW 10:00 AM Grace Circle 12:00 PM NA Stretch & Grow 1:00 PM Faith Circle 6:30 PM Drama Group 7:30 PM Chancel Choir 7:30 PM Lay Leadership	3 9:00 AM NA Stretch & Grow 10:00 AM Breathing Spaces	4 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 5:00 PM Inquirer's Class 7:00 PM NA Recovery
5 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Drop In 9:15 AM Adult Study 9:15 AM Adult Study/Crazy Love 9:15 AM Confirmands & Parents 9:15 AM Homebuilders 1 & 2 9:15 AM Sr. High Prayer & Share 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM Mission Trip Mtg 6:30 PM Youth Group	6 11:30 AM NA Staff Meeting 6:00 PM New Members Ministry 7:00 PM Scouts-Committee Mtg 7:30 PM BSA 10 Class A Mtg	7 8:00 AM Hospice of NE IL 1:00 PM Shawl Ministries 7:00 PM Board of Trustees	8 9:15 AM Mom's Study 7:00 PM Disciple I 7:30 PM BSA 10 Committee Mtg 7:30 PM Handbells	9 9:30 AM WOW 12:00 PM NA Stretch & Grow 7:00 PM CPTF/Future Team Mtg 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	10 9:00 AM NA Stretch & Grow 9:00 AM set up for concert 10:00 AM Breathing Spaces	11 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM El Bethel Concert 7:00 PM NA Recovery
12 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Drop In 9:15 AM Adult Study 9:15 AM Adult Study/Crazy Love 9:15 AM Children's Ministries 9:15 AM Confirmation Class 9:15 AM Homebuilders 1 & 2 9:15 AM Sr. High Prayer & Share 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM Missions Ministry 3:30 PM Humboldt Park Ministry 6:30 PM Youth Group	13 6:30 PM Flutes Unlimited 6:30 PM Preschool Board 7:00 PM Scouts-Den 2 Mtg 7:00 PM Scouts-Den 6 Mtg 7:30 PM BSA 10 Activity Shirt Mtg	14 7:30 PM Staff Parish	15 8:30 AM UM Foundation 9:00 AM set up for UMW mtg 9:15 AM Mom's Study 7:00 PM Disciple I 7:30 PM Handbells	16 9:30 AM UMW Board Mtg 9:30 AM WOW 11:15 AM UMW General Mtg 12:00 PM Noah's Ark Stretch & Grow 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	17 10:00 AM Breathing Spaces	18 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM NA Recovery
19 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Drop In 9:15 AM Adult Study 9:15 AM Adult Study/Crazy Love 9:15 AM Confirmation Class 9:15 AM Homebuilders 1 & 2 9:15 AM Sr. High Prayer & Share 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:30 PM Youth Group	20 7:00 PM Scouts-Den 1 Mtg 7:00 PM Worship & Arts 7:30 PM BSA 10 PLC	21 1:00 PM Traveling Tea Party 7:00 PM Finance Committee	22 Ash Wednesday 9:15 AM Mom's Study 7:30 PM Worship Service 8:30 PM Chancel Choir	23 9:30 AM WOW 12:00 PM NA Stretch & Grow 7:00 PM CPTF/Future Team Mtg	24 9:00 AM NA Stretch & Grow 10:00 AM Breathing Spaces	25 8:00 AM Youth Kalahari Trip 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 5:00 PM Family Fun Night 7:00 PM NA Recovery
26 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Drop In 9:15 AM Adult Study 9:15 AM Adult Study/Crazy Love 9:15 AM Confirmation Class 9:15 AM Homebuilders 1 & 2 9:15 AM Sr. High Prayer & Share 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:30 PM Youth Group	27 6:30 PM Flutes Unlimited 7:30 PM BSA 10 Court of Honor 7:30 PM Leadership Council	28 6:30 PM Standing Fund Raising Ministry	29 9:15 AM Mom's Study 7:00 PM Disciple I 7:30 PM Handbells	1 9:30 AM WOW 10:00 AM Grace Circle 12:00 PM NA Stretch & Grow 1:00 PM Faith Circle 6:30 PM Drama Group 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	2 9:00 AM NA Stretch & Grow 10:00 AM Breathing Spaces 5:00 PM set up workshop	3 8:30 AM Agape Handbell Workshop 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Fellowship Leap Year Party 7:00 PM NA Recovery

Sunday Mornings in February

Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

February 5 *This We Believe: Grace Confounding*
 February 12 *This We Believe: Great Expectations*
 February 19 *This We Believe: The Way of Salvation*
 February 26 *Tough Choices: Confronting the Beasts*

Matthew 9:9-13
 Matthew 25:3-46, James 2:14-26
 Luke 5:17-26, Philippians 2:12-13
 Mark 1:9-15, Genesis 9:8-17

Adult Ministries Winter Sessions

Connect, Learn and Grow with Us!

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (or as soon as you can arrive)

Crazy Love

Come join us as we discuss the book *Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God* by Francis Chan. From the book:

“Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical, solutions? God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself. Because the answer to religious complacency isn’t working harder at a list of do’s and don’ts—it’s falling in love with God. And once you encounter His love, as Francis Chan describes it, you will never be the same.” Meet in room 108, enter the church office, down the hall on the left. Facilitator, **Brian Kramper** (briankramper@yahoo.com)

Home Builders

Home Builders (Parents of children and youth)

We will be discussing *Heaven is for Real*. Facilitator, **Kathy Black** Contact, **Julia Hooper** (2juliahooper@gmail.com). Meet in room 111 after the kids are settled in their classes.

The Good and Beautiful Life

Based on the book which follows *The Good and Beautiful God*, our journey moves from knowing God to living like Christ. Following the sermon on the mount we will discuss how to see beyond the vices that cause ruin—anger, lust, lying, worry, and judging—to a life that is modeled on Christ. This study is facilitated by **Pastor Cynthia Anderson** in the Parlor (behind the kitchenette.)

Chapel Drop In

We will meet in the Chapel (9:00-9:15 a.m. gathering and 9:15-10:00 a.m. for the session). No commitment worries – attend as you can. Each session is independent of previous or future sessions. The “Chapel Drop In” is exactly what it says—a place to drop in any Sunday that you can. No books or studying are needed. Just Drop In! Facilitator, **Tim Grabacki**

Youth Ministries

Prayer and Share

Every Sunday Morning 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Youth Room. For the devotion portion of the morning, we are studying 1 Corinthians.

Youth Group

Every Sunday Evening 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Youth Room Contact **Joel McClellan** for more information at jmccllellan@bar-ringtonumc.com

Youth Mission Trip Meeting

The youth and adult chaperones will travel to Hamilton, Ohio July 14-25, 2012 for their annual mission trip with Group Work Camps. There will be an informational session for new students who have never been on the mission trip, returning veteran youth, and all of their parents at 11:45 a.m. on **February 5**. Students who will graduate from eighth grade in 2012 are eligible. The meeting will cover details of the trip and opportunities to help in various areas before, during, and after the trip. Registration starts February 5 and we are asking for \$100 deposit when people register.

Wednesday Mornings

Moms Group (9:15-11:15 a.m.) in the parlor. Discussing *God’s Wisdom for a Mother’s Heart* by Bobbie Wolgemuth. Join moms for fellowship, networking and great conversation. Childcare will be provided for infants and preschoolers. Facilitator, **Karen Twohig** (847-304-6652) otistwo@comcast.net

Thursday Mornings

Women of the Word (WOW), (9:30-11:30 a.m.) in the Parlor. Join women for fellowship, study and great conversation about *A Woman of Beauty* by Dee Brestin. Facilitator, **Cecelia “C” Watson**

Friday Mornings

Breathing Spaces, (10:00-10:30 a.m.), Cook Street Coffee in Barrington at the corner of Station and Cook Streets. Informal discussion about everyday life connected to a different scripture selection each week. Facilitator, **Pastor Cynthia Anderson** (847-836-5540)

Saturday Mornings

Men’s Study, (8:30-9:00 a.m.) Coffee/food/fellowship; (9:00-10:00 a.m.) Continue in the parlor with the study/discussion. The Men’s group is co-facilitated by **Jim Finn** (jameskfinn@comcast.net) and **Brian Kramper** (briankramper@yahoo.com).

Lenten Evening Study—Coming Soon!

In our church membership vows, we promise to uphold the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Have you ever wondered how to do that? Please join us for a study to help understand how to live out church membership vows in real life. The dates and times of the study will be announced soon.

Connect, Equip, Serve

Kalahari Trip

We are taking an overnight trip to the Kalahari Indoor Water Park. **February 25-26.**



Future Family Fun Night

Dates and Themes

February 25- "Game Night" - Bring your favorite game to play with others!



March 17- "St. Patrick's Day"

More details to follow—look for Family Fun Night fliers on the information tables in the Narthex.

Thank You!

Children's Ministries received many "Thank You" cards from the residents of Green Castle retirement home. The notes all stated how grateful they were for BUMC's generosity towards our mission. Children's Ministries also thanks you for supporting our mission!

Immediate Help Needed!

We are in need of moms and dads to lend a hand in Children's Church. We are very short on volunteers so if you have children, please sign-up. The weekly lessons are simple to teach and the kids love to have their parents as their teachers! See Missy.



Mark Your Calendars for Vacation Bible School!

The Vacation Bible School dates and theme are set! VBS will be held here at BUMC from Monday, June 18 through Friday, June 22 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Our theme is "Babylon-Daniel's Courage in Captivity". Have drama talents? We are going to need a few roles filled! Want to be Daniel? Contact Missy with any interest in VBS roles!

Butter Braids Sale

We will once again be selling butter braid pastries in time for Easter! This is a fund raiser to help continue future improvements to our Nature Explore Class Room. We will be pre-selling them in the Narthex on Sunday, **March 4** and Sunday, **March 11**.



Noah's Ark Preschool Registering For Fall

Noah's Ark Christian Preschool and Kindergarten is now registering 2-6 year olds for the 2012-2013 school year! A ministry of BUMC, Noah's Ark is located in the education wing of the church, which consists of five bright, spacious classrooms equipped with developmentally appropriate materials. There is also an expansive outside playground and an indoor motor room. The nationally certified Nature Explore Classroom allows children to explore nature in a safe environment. "Our preschool provides an environment which nurtures and stimulates the development of young children and surrounds them with God's presence," says Director Mary Bradley. Noah's Ark offers low student to teacher ratios, plus all instructors meet state qualifications, and are trained in CPR and First Aid. Classes are half day, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. For tours of the facility and registration, please call (847) 844-3738. You may also visit: www.BarringtonUMC.com/preschool.

Financial Campaign Update

As of January 30, 2012 the congregation has pledged \$756,758 toward the operations of the church (198 pledges) and \$207,407 toward the building fund (110 pledges.)

From *Practicing Extravagant Generosity: Daily Readings on the Grace of Giving* by Robert Schnase (2011, Abingdon Press) Excerpted from *Partnering with God*

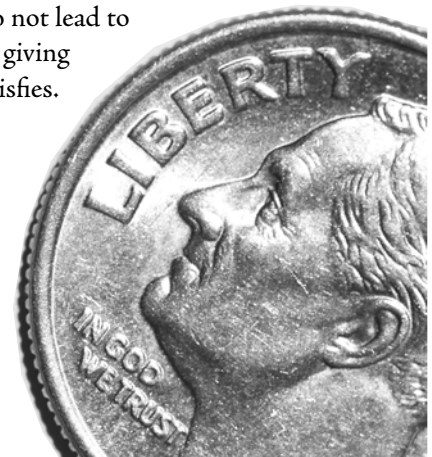
"People give because generosity helps them achieve God's purposes in themselves. By giving, we develop the inner qualities of generosity. Generosity is not a spiritual attribute someone acquires apart from the practice of giving. It becomes discernible only through visible behavior. We cannot become generous and cling to everything we have without letting go. The opposite of generosity is greediness, selfishness. These are not the qualities that lead to life, and so by our giving we cultivate a different nature inside ourselves.

"God uses our practice of giving to reconfigure our interior life. By giving, we craft a different desire as the driving element of our life.

Our motivations change.

"Giving moderates the powerful and sometimes destructively insatiable drive for acquisition. In the daily interior struggle fostered by a consumerist, materialist society that pressures us to pursue many things that do not lead to real happiness, the practice of giving aims us at what ultimately satisfies.

Giving sanctifies and deepens the struggle, and constantly sets the internal compass in the right direction. Generosity becomes a tool God uses to draw us closer to God and to align us more closely with God's desire for us."



New Members Welcomed to BUMC in January



Pictured from top left clockwise: Gayleen and Don Brown, Brad and Carla Capel and daughters, Matt and Ashley Sekula and sons, Amy and Craig Winkelman and daughters, Kevin Peters and Colleen Gillespy.

Welcome!

UMW Meetings for February

Grace Circle will meet **Thursday, February 2**, at 10:00 a.m. in the BUMC Dining Room.

Faith Circle will meet **Thursday, February 2**, at 1:00 p.m. in the Prairie View Building, 3rd Floor at the Garlands, 6000 Garland Lane.

There will be a UMW board meeting at 9:30 a.m. on **February 16**.

UMW General Meeting

Sam Oliver will be presenting "Gift of Hope: Extending Life for Others Through Organ and Tissue Donation" at the **February 16** General Meeting of United Methodist Women. Please join us to learn more about this important topic. While this is a different way to view "love" in the month of February, "there is no greater love than the altruistic love of sharing, and giving, a life." (Yeon Won Bae, Ph.D, organ donor recipient) We will gather at 11:15 a.m., with the program at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Child care is available; please contact **Linda Osikowicz**. All are invited!

Day of Spiritual Renewal

Think Spring and Save the Date! Thoughts of spring often include a hope for renewal and reawakening. You are invited to a Day of Spiritual Renewal sponsored by Elgin District UMW on Saturday, **April 21**, at Salem United Methodist Church. "The Journey" will be presented by Diana Facemyer, Aurora District Superintendent. The Journey: Forgiveness, Restorative Justice and Reconciliation intertwines stories from the Bible and recent history to illustrate the redemptive power of forgiveness, the restorative power of God's justice and the Good News of reconciliation. Rev. Facemyer's sense of humor, insight, and story telling will take this "heavy sounding" title and bring it to a personal, identifiable level to learn from the Biblical and personal stories the power of forgiveness. All are invited! Please mark your calendars and watch for further information.

No Spring Clothing Sale For 2012, but Rummage Sale Returns in October

UMW will not be holding a Spring Clothing Sale this year. While we know we were able to provide a needed service with your donations, for various reasons we have decided not to hold the sale. We are thankful for your past donations and we offer several alternatives, so others can continue to benefit from your generosity. Please consider Catch Penny and House of Hope in Barrington, Wings and Sparrow's Nest in Palatine, and Goodwill in Lake Zurich. We WILL be having our annual Rummage Sale on **October 5 and 6**, so we do hope that you will store your winter items and other treasures for that event.

Want more information about United Methodist Women? Check out the website: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw>. You can learn more about the new mission studies, check out the more than 100 local missions that UMW supports, learn about the history of UMW, social action concerns, and read about what women are doing nationally and internationally.



The Classic Arts Trio from left: William Koehler, Stephanie Preucil and Walter Preucil.

Sharing Our Gifts—Classical Arts Concert Supports Habitat for Humanity

Each spring, the Classic Arts Trio offers a special performance in and for the community sponsored by the Missions Ministry Group of BUMC. William Koehler, Northern Illinois University piano professor, Walter Preucil, Lyric Opera cellist, and Stephanie Preucil, award-winning violinist and studio teacher will perform a concert of chamber music on Friday, **March 30**. Please save the date for this year's performance!

The proceeds from the concert will benefit Habitat for Humanity. Founded in 1976, Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical housing ministry dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide. Habitat has built over 70,000 houses around the world, providing 350,000 people with safe, decent and affordable shelter.

Habitat houses are sold to the partner families at no profit financed with affordable, no interest loans. The homeowners' monthly mortgage payments are recycled into a revolving Fund for Humanity that is used to build more houses. Partner families are identified based on their level of need, willingness to become partners in the Habitat program, and ability to pay the no-interest loans.

Locally, Habitat works in partnership with Joyful Hands, a consortium of 10 Barrington Churches committed to build one Habitat for Humanity home per year. Each member church pledges to donate a fixed amount through the Joyful Hands Ministry. A majority of BUMC's financial commitment is raised through the generosity of the congregation in the support of the Sharing Our Gifts Classical Arts Concert.

For additional information, contact **Brent Hayes** at bnd95@hotmail.com. For more information regarding the Joyful Hands Partnership, please visit the web site at habitatnfv.org.

Foods Resource Bank Campaign 2011

BUMC's investment of \$11,500 coupled with Trinity Lutheran's investment of \$11,700 in 2011 resulted in \$40,250 raised through the grain sold off of the sponsored acres.



February 2012

The Banner

Barrington United Methodist Church
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Barrington, IL 60010
Phone: (847) 836-5540
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Web: barringtonumc.com

Senior Pastor: Dr. James M. Wilson
Associate Pastor: Dr. Cynthia Anderson
Children's Ministries Coordinator: Missy Konopka
Youth Ministries Director: Joel McClellan
Music Director: Karen Maxwell
Preschool Director: Mary Bradley
Communications Director: Christine Streed
Deadline for March Issue: February 22

Upcoming Events



The February Community Meal

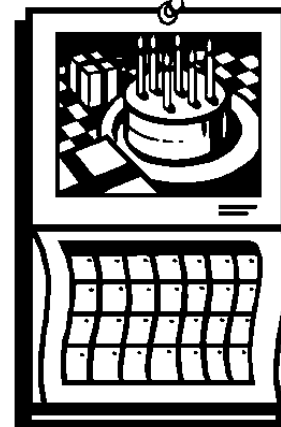
Date: **February 16, 2012**
Host: St. Anne's Catholic Church
Address: 120 N Ela Street
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
They will be serving salad, spaghetti, dessert, and a taste of community. Our goal is to encourage and strengthen friendships, share kindness and inspire hope in the community by the simple act of sharing a meal together as neighbors

BUMC to Host Handbell Workshop

BUMC will host The Handbell Musicians of America and The Agape Ringers for an all-day workshop and mini-concert on Saturday, **March 3**. We'll have over 100 ringers here from northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin doing a massed ring and then attending classes before ending the day with the mini-concert by The Agape Ringers. The concert time to be announced. Contact Karen Maxwell.

Leap Year Party

Please mark **March 3** on your calendars for a Leap Year Party and "Red and White" Beverage Tasting at the home of Barb and Jim Finn from 7:00-10:00 p.m. Singles and couples are welcome, and attire will be "country casual". Please sign up at the Fellowship table to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. We'll be asking for a \$5 donation per person to cover the cost of beverages that will be sampled. Barb and Jim's residence is located at 658 Bradford Lane, West Dundee in the Carrington Reserve subdivision.



Happenings at BUMC

Preparing for Lent

Ash Wednesday, **February 22** Lent, **February 22-April 7**

What Is Lent and Why Does it Last Forty Days?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection. *From the United Methodist Church web site at UMC.org*

Update Your E-mail Address

We are updating our e-mail communications and want to be able to keep in touch with you! Please contact **Chris Streed** at cstreed@barringtonumc.com if you change your e-mail address or if you have recently changed it. Thank you!



Receiving The Banner

You have received this copy of *The Banner* because we would like to communicate with as many of our members and friends as possible. Our newsletter continues to be accessible online at barringtonumc.com. If you do not want to receive a paper copy of *The Banner* please send an e-mail to **Chris Streed** at cstreed@barringtonumc.com or phone 847-836-5540 and we will remove you from this mailing.