

### ***Vacation Bible School Lunches***

We have been blessed for many years to have a dedicated group of women who volunteer to provide lunch for all the volunteers and their children during the week of VBS. Anyone who has helped with Vacation Bible School in the past knows how much this is appreciated each day! Our lunch preparers are ready to train their successors, and this will be their final year providing lunches for VBS. They would love to work in conjunction with another group this year as a transition year with the plan being that the new group would take over lunches for VBS 2012. If you would like more information, contact Melissa Martin ([melissa@andrew-umc.org](mailto:melissa@andrew-umc.org), 497-7755).



### ***One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), Sunday, April 3***

Today, what is known throughout the United Methodist Church as UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), is the remarkable agency of our church which had its origin 70 years ago at a meeting of the General Conference of the Methodist Church. There, retired Bishop Herbert Welch, in view of the horrific violence of World War II, called for the formation of an agency to respond to the vast needs of human suffering worldwide, and to act as a “voice of conscience among Methodists.” That was the beginning of UMCOR.

Throughout the United Methodist Church once each year, “The One Great Hour of Sharing” is celebrated to focus on the ministry of UMCOR. This special hour is essential to the United Methodist Committee on Relief in carrying out its mission to alleviate human suffering throughout the world—at home and abroad. Gifts to this offering underwrite UMCOR’s “cost of doing business.” That helps UMCOR keep its promise that 100% of every gift you make to a specific UMCOR project can be spent on that project, not on administrative costs.

April 3 is the designated date for this year’s One Great Hour of Sharing, the major UMCOR offering opportunity during the year. Please join other Christians following in the footsteps of those who have given more than \$600 million in the past 70 years to One Great Hour. Make a “sacrificial offering” to help those who are hungry, poor, refugees and displaced, or victims of war, earthquakes and other disasters.



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### ***Welcome***

We warmly welcome our visitors who are worshipping with us today. Our worship is more complete because you are here. We pray that your time with St. Andrew has blessed you and that you will return to worship with us again. If there is anything you might need, please ask an usher. Also, make your presence known to us by filling in the registration pad as it is passed during the offertory.

### ***Worship Services at St. Andrew***

At St. Andrew, we are pleased to offer four worship opportunities. Our **8:45 a.m.** service on Sunday provides a blend of the great hymns and traditions of the faith along with an informal attitude of caring and warmth. Our *Unplugged Praise* worship at **10:00 a.m.** features contemporary music played on acoustic instruments in an intimate setting, combining prayer, preaching, and praise to glorify God. The **11:15 a.m.** praise worship at relies on high energy contemporary music, dramatic vignettes, and relational preaching. The Mid-Week Service is a passionate, fun, welcoming and intimate worship experience. Come on in, grab a cup of coffee and grow with us! The service is **Wednesday’s at 7 p.m.** in the Intersection. It’s our hope that one of these inspiring worship experiences will help connect you to the living God.



### ***For Our Guests***

If you are a guest with us today, you are invited to receive a Welcome Packet from a greeter or at the Welcome Center, if you have not received one already. In The Commons, there is a gift for each guest family from our Front Porch Ministry. Please stop at the Welcome Center after the service to pick up your gift, and you can drop off the completed visitor card that you will find in the Welcome Packet. We are glad you chose to worship with us today.

### ***Coffee in Commons***

You are encouraged to come and enjoy fellowship along with coffee, tea, or juice, and donuts. Coffee in The Commons begins about 9:45 and continues through 11:15. There is a selection of goodies and coffee available at the kitchen window also, so you can pick up some refreshment on the way to your class.



### Midweek Service

Looking for a spiritual growth opportunity during Lent? Come to the Midweek Worship/Study experience! Last week, we saw Jesus being transfigured before His inner circle, and we observed His confrontational message of compassion, healing, and commitment to God's laws. This week, more evidence of the real character of Jesus will be revealed in the Gospel of Mark, Chapters 11 and 12. Please join us **March 23, 7:00 p.m.** in the Intersection. We'll save you a seat!



### Echoes of the Gospel

All are welcome to join us at the next meeting of the Echoes of the Gospel Book Club:

- What: *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson
- When: Sunday, March 27, 6-7:30 p.m.
- Where: Adult 1, St. Andrew

Several of us have already read the book and highly recommend it. The Library Journal starred review called it an "irresistibly delightful, thoughtful, and utterly charming and surprising novel." It raises issues related to race, religion, wayward children, small-town life, and romance. Jean Thrasher is leading the discussion. Snacks will be provided.

### Lenten Offering



The children at St. Andrew (age 2-5<sup>th</sup> grade) will be taking part in a Lenten Offering Project this year. Children received a cardboard bank in their Sunday School class last week but banks are still available. The children will be encouraged to fill the bank and bring it back during any of the worship services on Easter Sunday. All money collected will go to fund scholarships for Operation Classroom ([www.gbgm-umc.org/operationclassroom](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/operationclassroom)). If your child doesn't attend Sunday School, you can pick up a bank from Melissa Martin.

**Center Stage Activity...** This is a reminder that we will provide the Community Meal at Trinity UM Church on Sunday, March 27, at 12:00 noon.



The meal will consist of a casserole, Jell-o fruit salad, and cookies.

Please contact Jan Coleman at 463-6051 or [janc2712@msn.com](mailto:janc2712@msn.com) if you would like to contribute. We need to plan on feeding about 60 guests plus ourselves (usually around 20), so all donations of food and help would be greatly appreciated. P.S. The casserole recipe is available from Jan.

### Ministry Call Out: March 24 At 7 P.M.

InTouch is looking to strengthen our health promoting ministries. These are ministries that invite and encourage our congregation and community neighbors to participate in programs and groups focused on individual, community and world health. We recognize that the stronger and healthier we are, the more capacity we will have to give of ourselves to others. If you are interested in helping us expand and strengthen these ministries, please come to an informational meeting on Thursday, March 24 in the office conference room at 7:00 p.m. We are looking for individuals who are interested in helping InTouch grow this effort, as well as qualified medical professionals who are able to take blood pressure readings for anyone who is concerned about their blood pressure or would like their blood pressure checked on a regular basis. If you have any questions, please call Laurie at the church office (497-7755).



### Youth Mission Projects

Let some of the Senior High Youth going on the mission trip help you. We have set up something new this year—a double win for everybody. Hire a youth going on the mission trip to do something for you, and make a donation to St. Andrew in their name for the mission trip. All payments need to go through Tom Arrowsmith, so they are recorded properly. You can pay the youth by making a check out to St. Andrew or you can give Tom the check directly. Look for names and pictures of our youth who are looking to make some extra money on the bulletin board outside the Senior High room. So, do you have something that needs to be done that you have no interest in doing yourself? Then please consider one of our youth!

### Is the Tutoring Ministry Calling You?



As mentioned in the last newsletter, the current coordinator of the tutoring program feels called in another direction.

Do you love helping kids? Do you enjoy marketing wonderful programs? Are you looking for a program that needs you? Well, God just might be calling you to this very important ministry! This is a pivotal time in public education. Funding obstacles have caused many changes locally in our schools. This makes our tutoring program even more important.

If you are interested in exploring this opportunity to fit into this ministry, please talk to Dana Kirkwood or email her at [dana@andrew-umc.org](mailto:dana@andrew-umc.org) or 497-7755.