

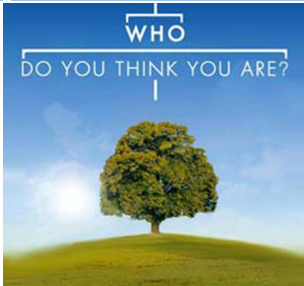
CONNECTIONS



FEBRUARY 2012

live. love. grow.*

FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES



"The position we occupy in our families of origin is the only thing we can never share or give to another while we are alive. It is the source of our uniqueness and hence, the source of our emotional potential as well as our difficulties...Rather than fleeing from it or unwittingly allowing it to program our destiny, the more we can learn to occupy this position with grace and savvy, the more effectively we can function in all areas of our lives." — Ed Friedman

During February we will help you answer the question **"WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?"** by using a deeply simple tool designed to help you discover yourself, in the context of your family, in a way that can make a powerful difference for yourself and for all you love.

February 5 The Power of One (to One)

February 12 The 'Magic' of Cousins

February 19 The Promise of Passages

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP with distribution of ashes and Holy Communion will be held in the Sanctuary at **6 p.m. on Wednesday February 22.** **"Final Words from the Cross,"** Adam Hamilton's newest Bible study, will begin at 7 p.m. **Sanctuary Choir** will rehearse at 7 p.m. and **Redeemed** at 8 p.m.



HANDBELL MINISTRY FUNDRAISER DINNER

Our Handbell Choirs will ring at the **"Missouri Ring" Handbell Conference** this June in St. Charles, Missouri!

This opportunity does not come along very often—and we need your support to raise funds so all 25 ringers can participate!

Our 5th Annual Fundraiser Dinner is at 5:30 on Wednesday, 2/8. To put you in a festive mood for Valentine's Day, come and enjoy great ambiance and a delicious Italian meal—**complete with our ever-popular Chocolate Fountain and Dessert Bar!**

Love offerings are gratefully accepted for our Handbell Ministries. This special event is lots of fun—so don't miss it! For reservations, sign the Connect Card on Sunday or call the church office at 636-327-6377. *Bon Appétit!*



YOUTH GROUP CONFIRMATION SESSIONS

Sundays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. / February 12-March 25

Confirmation Sunday is April 15

Our confirmation theme is Credo—which means "I Believe."

We'll discuss our faith, baptism, and what it means to live a life with Christ as your savior.

If you are in grades 6-12, join us as we learn together, visit a Jewish synagogue, attend Catholic mass, and take time away at a retreat center to discover **who God is—who we are—and who we are together as followers of Christ.**

You can register by talking with youth leaders Phil & Gwynn Erdmann, or by contacting the church at 636-327-6377 or church@wentzville-umc.net.

The Confirmation Leadership Team looks forward to helping you **Know Your Story, Confirm your Faith, and Live Your Commitment!**

FROM THE PASTOR



The Irish image for Holy Spirit is a wild goose, and we will look at what it means to chase the goose (Holy Spirit) that is, in reality, chasing us.

Since the weather seems to have many of us looking forward to spring, I am using this column to look forward to the next few sermon series.

Who Do You Think You Are?

Some of you have seen the television series by the same name, about celebrities and their search for ancestors and their stories. The next three Sundays, clips from the TV series and some personal examples will help us understand the biblical truth that we are profoundly influenced by those who have come before us, and that we will have an important impact on those who follow.

Three Simple Questions Beginning in late February, and continuing to Easter, we will examine three simple, yet important, questions that can help us grow in Christ, both individually, and as the church:

Why do people need Jesus Christ?

Why do people need the church?

Why do people need the United Methodist Church at Wentzville?

A Wild Goose Chase Following Easter, we will go on a wild goose chase. The Irish image for Holy Spirit is a wild goose, and we will look at what it means to chase the goose (Holy Spirit) that is, in reality, chasing us.

I look forward to seeing you Sunday.

Prayer Concerns

The family of Wilma Gene Hill upon her death; the family of Bob Hanson upon the death of his mother; the family of Karen Springer upon the death of her aunt; Shirley Slinkerd, Gordon Davis, Shirley Garrett, Barry Phipps, Walt Winters, Tiffany Hohl, Jim Pousson, Lynn Wollen, Theresa Delaughter and Anna Selley

Our Homebound

Frieda Barrett, Virginia Henson, Eileen Homesley, Floyd Jennings, Madeline Ruhl, Ginny Springer

Our Military

Brett Bowser, Charles Carroll, Jeff Crowder, Scott Crowder, Matthew Doehne and Scott Mesler

Staff

LIVE Team Chairs (Worship)

Traci Morlock and Jack Striebel

Contemporary Worship.....Traci Morlock*
Handbell Director.....Lisa Conley*
Praise Band Drummer.....David Hollenbeck*
Sanctuary Accompanist.....Sue Pousson*
Sanctuary Choir Director.....Phil Norman
Worship Media Team.....
Lee Engelhardt, Bruce Kates, JB Mette, Brian Phipps, Jack Striebel, Mike Smith, Rob Swanson and Rob Tucker

LOVE Team Chairs (Mission & Ministry)

Phil and Donna Norman

Congregational Care.....Bob Anderson and Ginger Carroll

GROW Team Chairs (Small Groups)

Jan Tucker and Addie Mette

Children's Ministries.....Amy Swanson*
Youth Ministries.....Phil and Gwynn Erdmann

FUN Team Chair

JB Mette

Support Ministries

Custodians.....Sandie Briggs* & Anne Hansen*
Membership & Finance.....Trish Dalton*
Nursery.....Glenna Head*, Lana Nack*
Jessica Schmitz*, Heather Smith*

Office Administrator.....Donna Norman*

Pastor.....David Conley*

Pastor of Connections.....Jan Tucker*

**Paid Staff*

Connections is published monthly by The United Methodist Church at Wentzville. We exist to make more disciples of Jesus who **Live** (*lives devoted to God*): **Love** (*their neighbor as themselves*): **Grow** (*in Christ, through their hearts, souls, minds, and strength*). Our church facility is located at 725 Wall Street in Wentzville. Sunday worship celebrations are held at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact the church office at 636.327.6377 or church@wentzville-umc.net.

MISSION AND MINISTRY FOCUS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Did you know—that The United Methodist Church at Wentzville has been part of a 5-Member Methodist Church Coalition for the past four years? That we've helped build four Habitat houses? That none of this can happen without your donations of time, dollars and resources?

TAKE A BOW!

In 2012, while the coalition will not fund an entire house, each church has pledged various dollars and in-kind donations. We have pledged \$3,000—and volunteers will still be welcome. **Watch for sign up opportunities in late spring & early summer.** And keep bringing your \$1 bills to church on Sundays! Our kids will continue to “work the room” during worship to help fund our Habitat pledge. Thanks in advance for your support!

DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM

Reconstruction efforts continue in tornado-ravaged Joplin, Missouri—even though the “news crews” are gone. Our **Disaster Response Team will go the weeks of April 15, May 20 and August 12.** Volunteers and/or monetary donations are always welcome. Contact Rodger McQuate at 636-887-1884 or the church office 327-6377. Thanks in advance for your support!

MARY MARTHA THRIFT SHOP

We work the week of 2/20—on Tuesday and Thursday from 8-12 noon and 12-4 p.m., and from 8-12 noon on Saturday. If you have a few hours to spare we would love to have you join us! Sign the Connect Card on Sunday morning or call Gail McQuiston at 332-8055.



Thanks and hats off to Nancy Driscoll for her past service as **Life Event Meals Ministry Coordinator.** We provide meals to members of our congregation during times of illness, death and other life events.








Our new Coordinator is **Carolyn Shaw**—and we welcome her with sincere thanks! Carolyn can be reached at 636-332-5409 or carolyn.shaw@gmail.com.



WE'VE GOT GROUP!

Pick up the new Small Group Opportunities brochure in the Connections Center! It contains all you want to know regarding dates, descriptions and facilitators.

Here's a synopsis of current & upcoming offerings...

-  **Christian Prayer and Meditation**
-  **I Never Thought I'd See the Day**
-  **Why? Making Sense of God's Will**
-  **Adult Bible Studies**
-  **Final Words from the Cross**
-  **Three Simple Questions**
-  **Disciple III**

The Cypress Room in The ARK teams with activity on the 1st and



3rd Wednesdays of the month! If you are in K-5th grades, climb aboard the **“MISSION POSSIBLE KIDS”** train. In February we're working on blankets for Project Linus & other fun stuff. **Next meeting is at 5:45 p.m. on 2/15.** For details, call Mark & Betsy at 887-6654.

YOUNG FAMILY SOUP AND STUDY

We meet at 5 p.m. two Sundays a month in host homes or at the church for **“Soup and Study.”** Enjoy a light meal—and then kids play together while parents discuss video studies (childcare provided).

Join us **at church on 2/12 for a Nooma video & pizza** (\$8 per family for pizza)—and **at church on 2/26 for sandwiches and the movie, “Courageous.”**

For details, call Mark & Betsy at 887-6654.

GET CONNECTED!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women meet in the church Café for a potluck lunch at **12 noon on Thursday, 2/9**. Please bring a check for your blue blessing box contents, and cookies for our homebound. Questions? Contact Ola Martin at 332-6105.

MEN'S GROUP

The next Men's Group Breakfast will be held at **Bob Evans Wentzville on Saturday, 3/17** (Happy St. Patrick's Day).

No gathering in February due to our Upward Basketball volunteers who work concessions in the morning.

BOOK CLUB

Join us at **6 p.m. on Wednesday, 2/29** for a discussion of "Her Mother's Hope" by Francine Rivers. Reservations are not needed and all are welcome!

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY...

- ◆ Canned Beef Stew
- ◆ Canned Chicken
- ◆ Canned Chicken & Dumplings
- ◆ Canned Chili

Items can be placed in the Connections Center grocery cart. Thanks for your support!

CONNECTIONS CENTER—A NEW LOOK!

BULLETIN BOARDS

Many thanks to Bob Anderson for designing and building our new bulletin boards. They look great and will give us the chance to showcase our programs and ministries—up front!

SUNDAY STAFFING

The Connections Center is staffed each Sunday morning from 10-10:30 a.m. Got a question? Need a study book? Come check us out!

WEB SITE DEMONSTRATIONS

Our Communications Task Force is working hard to enhance our Web site with awesome upgrades. Targeted roll-out is March 1. We plan to offer Web demos in the Center over the next few weeks. Stay tuned!

LOST & FOUND

We have "lost" items which are never "found." Beginning this month we will tag leftover items—if not claimed in 30 days, they will go to Mary Martha Thrift Shop. Thanks for your support!

"WISH LIST"

Do you have art work that's no longer needed! Or gently used easy chairs? Our office foyer area would love them! Call the church for details (327-6377).

FEBRUARY at a glance...

Men's Basketball League

Sundays 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Tuesdays 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Youth Ministry

Sundays 7-8:30 p.m.

Adopt-A-Family

Monday, 2/6 at 6:30 p.m.

Handbell Fundraiser Dinner

Wednesday, 2/8 at 5:30 p.m.

United Methodist Women

Thursday, 2/9 at Noon

Youth Confirmation Classes

Sundays 6:30 p.m. 2/12-3/25

Church Council

Monday, 2/13 at 6:30 p.m.

Mission Possible Kids

Wednesday, 2/15 at 5:45 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, 2/22 at 6 p.m.

Youth RETREAT 2/24-2/26

Babler State Park

Book Club

Wednesday, 2/29 at 6 p.m.



Visit us on the Web!
www.livelovegrow.org



725 Wall Street
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