



Dyer United Methodist Church

...Where the adventure begins...

2016 Church Street :: Dyer, IN 46311 :: 219-865-8947

Dear Friends,

As we enter Lent, our time of preparing for Easter, we try to do things that will focus our attention to the great sacrifice of Christ on our behalf. We give up something to symbolize that Jesus gave up his life for us—the least we could do is give up something we want or like to remember that kind of an act!

We're going to be looking at the passion story from the sidelines of Mark's gospel this season. In studying the minor characters that saw this selfless love and anguish played out in front of them, we see where people were radically changed by such an encounter. As we sit on the sidelines of the Bible story, we too can experience change in the way we have routinely looked at this yearly-repeated message.

Think about your everyday routines. Is there really a focus on how Jesus' life and death touches yours? When going about your daily schedule, are there times when the thought of following Christ causes you to stop or change direction? Have we gotten so used to the routine of Lent and Easter that these days don't have any life-altering impact? We profess faith in a God who became human, overcame death, and promises us eternal companionship. No one else out there has such a connection to God.

In what way did Jesus experience his humanity with any meaning we can take from it? How did suffering and death allow us to connect with God when we feel down and out? How does his triumph over death allow us to live less fearful and more prepared? What are we doing in our life that has true meaning and purpose in the light of eternity?

These and many more questions are the ones I'm hoping you'll join me in exploring over the next several weeks. By looking at the change in everyday, ordinary people, maybe we can discover such a change for our lives. The journey will certainly be one of soul-searching and questions, but I hope it is also a time of challenge and growth, a radical transformation that never allows us to see this story of Christ with ordinary passiveness, but moves us to a closer, more fruitful Christian experience.

Serving with you,
Ken

Here to Serve...

Pastor Ken Puent

pastorken@dyerumc.org

Office Administrator

Char Szulewski
office@dyerumc.org

Music Director

Juanita Jarecki

Director of Student Ministries

Mike D'Attoma
miked@dyerumc.org

Office Assistant

Mary Jayme
finance@dyerumc.org

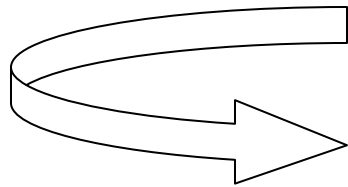
Coordinator of Christian Education

Maureen VanSwol
children@dyerumc.org

From the sublime...



Above: Tiffany Polyak & friends shake things up with their hip-hop routine.
Right: Jeannette, Shirley, Jim & Ken entertain with sweet Gospel harmonies.



...to the ridiculous

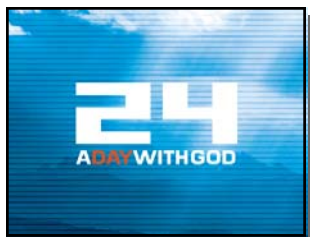
The men of M.A.P. brought down the house with a memorable interpretation of "You Raise Me Up."



This year's Pasta Dinner and Lack of Talent Show had it all

Around 175 friends and family gathered at Kahler Middle School for an evening of food and fun to help raise funds for DUMC's thriving youth program. A little friendly competition in the silent auction and a few key items in our live auction, led by the ever entertaining Carl Lisek, helped raise about \$3,500. Those funds have already purchased some much needed audio/visual equipment for the Youth Room. Many thanks to all who made this great event possible.

Shoreline Ministries Begins New Series



"24" A Day with God

It is a three week series exploring the morning, daytime, and nighttime of the Christian life. We will answer the questions:

How do we fill ourselves with the energy to get through the day and begin it with God? What do we do with that knowledge and mission once we have it? And how is our faith shown to others? We are excited and hope your students will join

Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...

Our Service Members	Robert Galbreath
Debbie Busch	Olive Han
Linda Crowder	Bill Kilander
Tom Fizer	Jackie Smith
Rob Fizer	Eileen Stiemart
Melba Fixter	Nancy Stivers
Rollin Flanagin	Fran Werth

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer need that you would like to add to the prayer chain, please call the church office, Cathy Millard at 365-3954 or send email to Roseann Piercy at: rr_piercy@comcast.net

Roll up your Sleeve & Save A Life

The Rosemary Crowder Memorial Blood drive will be held at the church on Sunday, March 29 from 8:00 a.m. until noon on Heartland's Mobile Coach. To schedule an appointment, please contact Diane Schwent at (219)322-4449.

Photo ID is required.

Children's Valentine Party Fun for everyone



Twenty two children came out for the Valentine PJ Party . They played HEART Bingo and a game to see who was the last person to get their balloon popped.

They decorated Valentines Day bags, exchanged valentines with all their friends and of course had cupcakes and ice cream.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this a fun-filled evening.

Lake Central School Corporation Kindergarten Enrollment

Kindergarten enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year will be held at all six Lake Central Elementary Schools on Wednesday and Thursday, **March 4 & 5, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and noon to 2:00 p.m.**

To be eligible for kindergarten a child must be 5 years old on or before August 1, 2009 and legally reside within the Lake Central School Corporation Boundaries.

For more information contact your local school. Enrollment will be held at the following locations:

Bibich Elementary
322-1185

Peifer Elementary
322-5335

Homan Elementary
322-4451

Protsman Elementary
322-2040

Kolling Elementary
365-8577

Watson Elementary
322-1365

Meals on Wheels

Providing Nutrition.

Preserving Dignity

Gail Saga and April Schumacher with Meal on Wheels visited DUMC on Sunday, February 15 to help our church family better understand the mission and the needs of the organization.

Meals on wheels annually delivers more than 340,000 nutritious meals to nearly 2,300 homebound elderly, ill and disabled adults; to more than 800 children at day care centers; and to almost 500 seniors at congregate sites.

They deliver more than meals...they deliver smiles one meal at a time. Meals of Wheels provides friendly conversation while checking on the client's well-being.

"Volunteering makes a difference in our clients' lives and it can make a difference in yours as well."

**For more information or to make a gift call
219-756-3663.**

Sunday School Classes Get Involved and find “Shear” Joy

The children’s Sunday school classes have decided to become involved with the Heifer Project. All over the world Heifer partners are raising sheep to advance the cause against hunger and poverty.

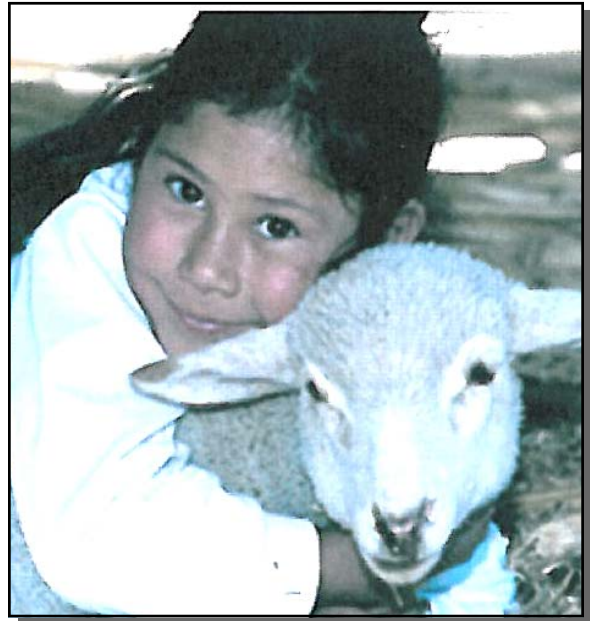
Entire communities depend on wool and meat from sheep. Struggling families use sheep’s wool to make clothes or sell it for extra income. Sheep often give birth to twins or triplets and can graze even the hilliest, rockiest pastures unsuitable for other livestock.

Some Heifer families use managed grazing techniques or zero-grazing pens to protect the environment and collect manure for fertilizer, which improves soil and pasture land.

Warm in winter, cool in summer, waterproof and durable, wool is a valuable product that struggling families can use for clothing or sell for extra income.

The collection from the Sunday school classes each week through Easter will be donated to the Heifer Project. **Our goal is to provide one sheep at the cost of \$120 to a community. Please help by having your child do chores around the house to earn extra money in the coming weeks.**

For more information on The Heifer Project visit www.heifer.org. Thank you for your support.



Important Message from the Memorial Gifts Committee

The committee would like to explain the church’s policy concerning donations in memory of a loved one.

If gifts are made in someone’s memory, they are placed in a special fund to be used only for special projects or ministries. If gifts accumulate over \$500 for that person, they are separated with fund and given a named account.

When the church sees a need for a special project, the Board of Trustees will work with the Memorial Gifts Committee to make that purchase, for instance, some furniture or appropriate sanctuary item. If a named account can cover the cost, the family will be

consulted about designating their gifts to that project.

Personal requests that money be spent on a specific project are difficult to honor since they may not fit the ministry needs of the congregation.

We will make every effort to send a thank you note to the donors of all memorial gifts, and the family will be informed of the names of these donors within a few weeks.

If you have any questions, you may contact Dorothy Davis, chair of the Memorial Gifts Committee or Pastor Ken.

Upcoming Sermon Series



Lenten Series: On the Edge of Easter

Looking at the peripheral characters of the passion story, we will identify similar traits in our own responses and reactions to Jesus' ministry and death.

March 1

Scripture Text: Mark 14:3-9

Title: The Foot Washer

First of all, you have her initial intention: paying tribute to her teacher. Then you have the crowd's reaction: that she was wasteful. But Jesus spins it in a third direction: preparation for burial. How does someone with one idea about how to praise Jesus turn out so different?

March 8

Scripture Text: Mark 14:12-17

Title: The Water Boy

Imagine being shamed into carrying the water. (That's women's work!) Then being followed to your house by some strangers. (Were they stalking him to beat him up?) And then meeting the Jesus the whole town is talking about. Sometimes doing the work nobody wants to do pays off.

March 15

Scripture Text: Mark 14:43-52

Title: The Naked Man

They could only catch the young one, everyone was running away so fast. What would cause this man to be with Jesus in the first place? How long had he followed? Would you be caught naked running away from Jesus?

March 22

Scripture Text: Mark 14:53-65

Title: The Trial Attorney

Imagine being in the Sanhedrin that night. Eager to convict, but needing to hear the right testimony. And going through charge after charge without agreement. What do you decide when you hear such varied stories about Jesus?

March 29

Scripture Text: Mark 14:66-72

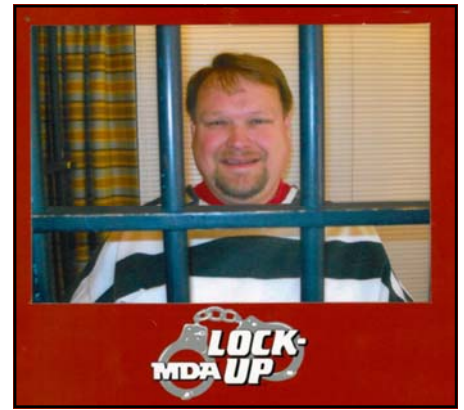
Title: The Servant Girl

You've been watching this stranger for awhile. You are just curious about who he is, but he gets really upset when you ask the right questions. How difficult is it to find out about this Jesus if his follower won't tell you anything?

Pastor Ken Behind Bars!!!

Accused of having an extremely big heart

Pastor Ken went "Behind Bars for Good" to raise "Bail for Jerry's Kids." Bail was set at \$1,000.



By participating in the Muscular Dystrophy Association Lock-Up, Pastor

Ken and all those who helped him raise bail are helping to fund MDA clinics, support groups and summer camp in the Dyer area.

Is Your Pledge Up to Date?

Weekly Stewardship to Reach Budget
\$7,555.00

Record of Faithfulness
Totals to Date as of 02/25/2009

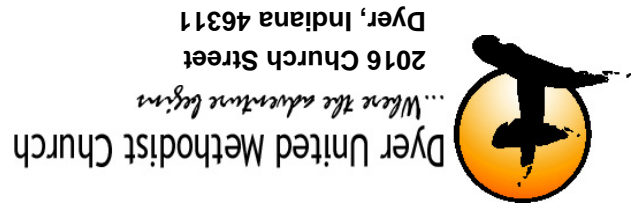
Weekly Stewardship Received

01/25/2009 \$6,342.60
02/01/2009 \$7,974.05
02/08/2009 \$6,547.00
02/15/2009 \$5,256.90

Weekly Attendance

01/25/2009 - 199
02/01/2009 - 215
02/08/2009 - 200
02/15/2009 - 209

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4



Upcoming Events

Priorities of Dyer United Method- ist Church

**#1 To Give Glory
To Christ and
Build His Kingdom
In All That We Do.**

**#2 To Serve and Reach Out
In Love To Those Outside The
Body Of Christ.**

**#3 To Love, Support and
Serve Those In Our
Church Family In Order
To Raise Up Disciples
of Jesus Christ.**

- First Sunday in Lent—March 1
- UMW—World Day of Prayer—March 6, 12:00pm
- Kids' St. Patrick's Day Party— March 13, 6:30pm
- Easter Egg Hunt—April 4, 10:00am