

THE Wesleyan



John Wesley
United Methodist Church
The Official
“Welcoming Congregation”

January 2011

open hearts • open minds • open doors

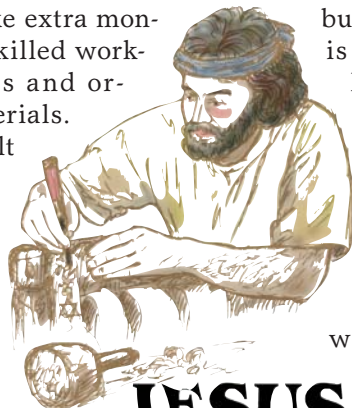
PO Box 696 • Falmouth, MA 02541 • (508) 548-3050 • www.jwumcfalmouth.org

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 am to 12 noon

Pastor's Message A Year Of New Beginnings

Once upon a time there was a carpenter who had hit very hard times. A wealthy woman living nearby noticed his condition, and wanting to do something to help, asked him to build a house for her. After the plans were drawn up, the wealthy woman said that she would be away for an extended time but to go ahead with the building. Upon leaving, she said, “Make sure you hire the best workers and use the finest materials available.”

The carpenter, however, saw an opportunity to make extra money and hired less-skilled workers at lower wages and ordered cheaper materials. The house was built in a slipshod way, cutting corners and hiding the blemishes with paint. When the wealthy woman returned home, the carpenter presented her with the keys to the



JESUS
the Carpenter

house. The rich woman said to the carpenter, returning the keys, “No, I had you build this house for yourself. Enjoy it”

This story is a good metaphor for life. We are the architects, the real builders of our lives. We choose the materials and we are responsible for the workmanship. Most people want to do the best they can with their lives. Life on earth is short at best, and if there are 75 or 50 or even 25 years behind you, and you are not satisfied that you have lived a meaningful life, perhaps you had better get busy. Even though life at times is uncertain and unsecure, it has tremendous possibilities, no matter how old you are, or who you are.

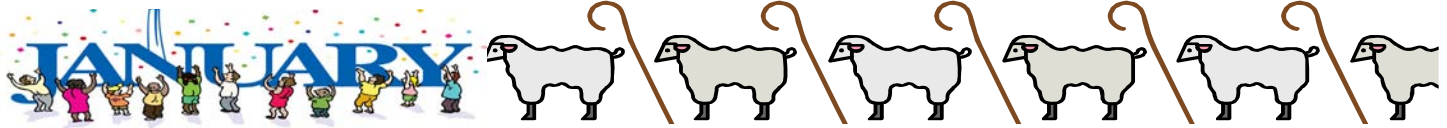
Among the great principles that make life worthwhile is the anticipation of a good outcome. At the time this article was written, we are behind in our pledges for our annual stewardship campaign. The members and friends of this congre-

**We are the architects,
the real builders of
our lives. We choose
the materials and we
are responsible for the
workmanship.**

gation are in fact, building the house that we, and future generations of God's children will live in. Hopefully, through our joyful giving we will be able to “enjoy it.” Stewardship means that of all I “own” belongs to God, and I am just God's steward. We all wrestle with that at times, however, giving to God starts an exponential cycle of blessings. We have every reason to anticipate that the year 2011 will be an even greater year than the year 2010 was for our church. Let us all dedicate our lives to building good outcomes for the glory of God.

Your minister,

David



Timing

by Sue MacKenzie, Lay Leader

Several years ago an old time friend of mine who now lives in Florida told me about a set of books entitled "The Mitford Series" and since she was very enthusiastic about these stories and since I generally respect her opinions on things, I took the first book of the series out of the library. The name of this one is "At Home in Mitford". Well, I read quite a few pages and put it down, waited a time and tried again. It just didn't grab my attention

at all and I wondered "why all of Connie's enthusiasm??" So, back to the library went the book. And that was that.

Time went by and it was time for a JWUMC Fair or Plant Sale or some event where the book table was on display. Well, there were several of the Mitford books, including the first one, and I decided to try again. I bought them all but I didn't begin to read right away. More time passed and finally I felt as though I should again try to get interested in the adventures of Father Tim and all the Mitford (North Carolina) folks. (I'd never told Connie that I didn't agree with her - there just never seemed to be a good time!)

So, for the second time I picked up "At Home in Mitford" and began one of the best "reads" of my life. As I read (devoured is a good word here) them I (like many other people) was absolutely captivated by the author's "down home" style of writing, by her ability to draw the reader into the southland and it's mores (I've never been further south than Williamsburg, Virginia) and by her gift of creating and expanding her characters' believability.

Father Tim is an Episcopal priest whose adventures and acquaintances have provided me with hours and hours of happy and very wholesome entertainment. Often several story lines weave through a book but they are easy to follow and are never boring! There's a peaceful and healthily enjoyable feeling that you get when you get into these tales. The pace of life which is depicted is not a mad, mad rush - this is not a "treadmill society", the characters listen to each other (for the most part) and you are drawn to listen to them!

Why didn't I latch on the first time? These books had been "best sellers" for several years and usually a recommendation from Connie and

a "best seller" designation would "hit the spot" with me.

As you've guessed, for some reason God must have wanted my attention to be gotten at another time! (Maybe now???) I still really don't have a clear picture of why I needed to wait. But I am sure that He knows.

Well, needless to say, I finished off all the several books that I got at that sale in jig time and also some that I borrowed from a friend. That was a couple (or so) of years ago and that was that again, I thought.

The author, Jan Karon, has written more than the "Mitford Series" and guess what? At our book table at the Holiday Fair last November there was "Home to Holly Springs" which is the first book in a "new" Father Tim series called simply, "The Father Tim Series"! \$2.00 was certainly not too much to pay to learn more of the good priest's life and times. The character of Father Tim is about my age and maybe this is partly why I relate (!?) although the books are peopled with characters young and old. In this book we go back to his childhood in well written flashbacks and heart warming "present day" dialogue between him and his wife. Anyway, I searched the book table for more by Ms. Karon and didn't find anything.

And so, I am wondering who out there has also enjoyed these books. The "Mitford Series" books that I haven't read are "In This Mountain" and "Shepherds Abiding" and I don't have any more of the "Father Tim Series". I promise that, if I borrow your copies, I'll keep them well and return them timely!

To you who haven't seen these books have I made you curious? Maybe it's your time to try them out!

You are all wished a peaceful and blessed New Year and I'm sure that Father Tim would take the time to wish you the same!

PASTOR
Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER
OF VISITATION**
Rev. Barbara Brand-James

**DIRECTOR OF
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**
Debra Bostwick

CHOIR & MUSIC DIRECTOR
John Yankee

KEYBOARDIST
Dr. Robert Wyatt

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Eva Peterson

EDITORS
Ed & Mary Jane Dyer

INDEX...

Worship Schedule..... 3

Poem Blizzard 4

Burning Bush 5

New Small Group 5

Tax Law Changes 6

Christian Education Message 6

THIS USHERS MONTH

Marilyn Mugno (508-564-5283) is LOOKING FOR MORE USHERS TO FILL IN DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. Please team - do not forget to help straighten up the pews after the service so it looks nice for the next service or function. Thank you. Happy New Year.

JANUARY 2011

- 2nd Mel Trott, Betty Bailey,
Sandra Berkley & Carlton Hack
- 9th Sharon Mulcahy, Betty Bailey,
Sandra Berkley, Greg Brown
- 16th Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane,
Jackie Johnson & Jack Berube
- 23rd Al Croft, Eric Tinglof,
Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt
- 30th Russell Brown, Dick MacKenzie,
Andy Taddeo, Marilyn Mugno

FEBRUARY 2011

- 6th Mel Trott, Betty Bailey,
Sandra Berkley & Carlton Hack
- 13th Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn &
Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 20th Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane,
Jackie Johnson, Janet Brooks
- 27th Al Croft, Eric Tinglof,
Karen Dean, & Lorraine Hunt

MARCH 2011

- 6th Mel Trott, Betty Bailey,
Sandra Berkley & Carlton Hack
- 13th Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn &
Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 20th Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane,
Jackie Johnson, Janet Brooks
- 27th Al Croft, Eric Tinglof,
Karen Dean, & Lorraine Hunt



January 2011

Epiphany Sunday, January 2, 2011

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-19, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

Liturgist: Dick MacKenzie

Altar Guild: Betty Bailey and Pat Dinsmore

Greeters: Harryette Alexander and Anna Blake

Ushers: Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley & Carlton Hack

Sunday, January 9, 2011 – Baptism of the Lord

Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 29, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3:13-17

Liturgist: Karen Camp

Altar Guild: Sharon Mulcahy and Eileen Rice

Ushers: Sharon Mulcahy, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley & Greg Brown

Sunday, January 16, 2011

Human Relations Sunday – (Martin Luther King)

Readings: Isaiah 49: 1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42

Altar Guild: Andrea Taddeo and Ginny Wass

Ushers: Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson & Jack Berube

Sunday, January 23, 2011

Ecumenical Sunday

Readings: Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18,
Matthew 4:12-23

Altar Guild: Barbara Swenson and Betty Bailey

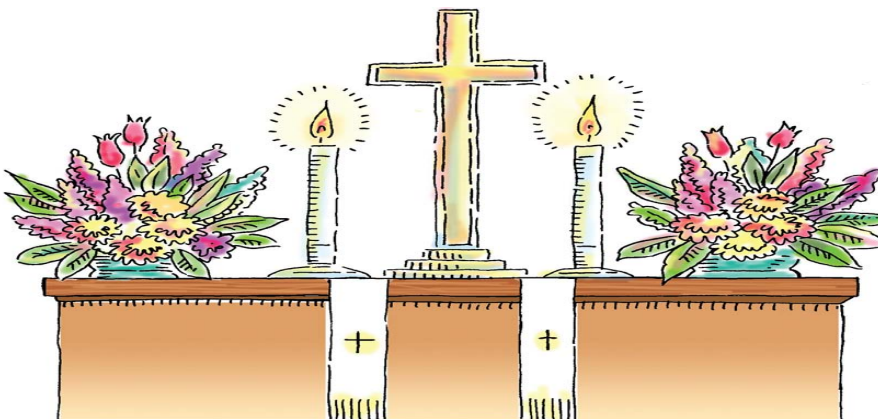
Ushers: Al Croft, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt & Eric Tinglof

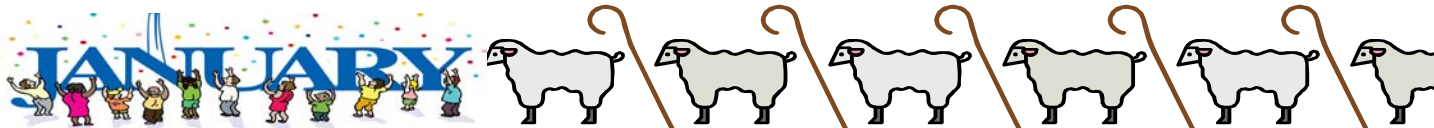
Sunday, January 30, 2011

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Readings: Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12

Ushers: Russell Brown, Dick MacKenzie, Andy Taddeo & Marilyn Mugno





The Blizzard

Fierce, howling winds...snow blowing round,
Footprints cannot even be found;

Everything covered within sight,
All wrapped up in blankets of white.

As countless flakes fall to the earth
Making a way for its rebirth

Into a winter wonderland
Guided by Mother Nature's hand.

I think how harsh some storms can be,
With darkened sky and raging sea,

Like turmoil one can feel within,
Plagued by sorrow or even sin.

But when the storm outside is done
And stillness reigns...earth basks in sun;

How like our souls when inner peace
Gives our beings a great release.

We pray to God for loving care,
Knowing that He is always there.

Then all within is calm once more
To feel contentment as before.

Joy Stosz
November 8, 2010

Psalm 51:7

LIGHT SWITCH COVER

Everyone who believes in God and lives for him is a child of light. Make this cover for your bedroom light switch to remind you to be a light for God.

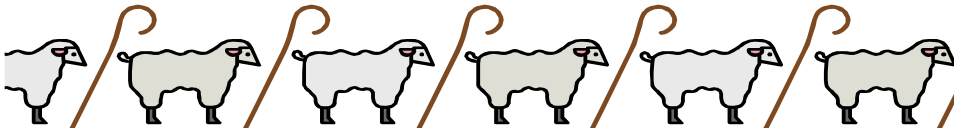
What you need:

- An adult to help
- Light switch cover
- Screwdriver
- Colored paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Decoupage glue
- Paintbrush
- Craft knife



What you do:

1. Remove the screws from the cover.
2. On the paper, draw small images related to light and write out "Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8, NIV).
3. Cut out the drawings and verse. Make sure they'll fit on the cover.
4. Paint the cover with a coat of decoupage glue, and then immediately place the drawings and verse on the cover.
5. Paint over them with another coat of glue. Let it dry.
6. Turn the cover over and use a craft knife to cut out the opening for the light switch.
7. Using a screwdriver, place your new light switch cover on your wall.



Burning Bush – Igniting Ministry

*Jeanne Amaral
Igniting Ministries*

What is happening at John Wesley? Has the fire gone out? I don't think so. Hopefully, you remember the focus of this program is "Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Have you turned the phrase inward to yourself? Have you noticed any transformation? Have you personally felt any difference here at church? If you said 'yes'; thank you, for trying to live more as Jesus has taught us, you must be becoming a Disciple! You realize that 'church' is a verb, at least for most Christians it should be and here at John Wesley, we do church and we are doing it quite well.

Shortly, we will be applying for the third year in the Welcoming Church Program. Without meeting the criteria for the program, this church would not be on the list. Each member has knowingly and often unknowingly, or rather without thought of self, contributed toward this goal. When we are complimented, week after week, about what a friendly, welcoming church ours is, YOU are the ones that do that. Greeting newcomers at the door, in the pews, in the parking lot, with the warmth and sincerity that you do is such a little thing, but it is so important. Big things such as, opening the parking lot for the road race runners or spectators on that Sunday morning or feeding the people in the community at bean or spaghetti suppers, Old Time Gospel Night and vacation Bible school are just a few of

the ways you bring our church to others. We are, with the help of all these new, as well as older presentations, well into a new plan of "program driven" church.

We are still in the process of finding out just who we are as God's people and what, exactly, does God want us to do here; both inside and outside of the red brick walls. Does this mean we are going to change? No and yes, but, I promise, the change will mostly be in your heart. Please, if you have ideas that you think would make John Wesley a better servant to God, tell a committee head, or Rev. David or Rev. Brand-James. That is what your council is for, we are 'church' together.

Is God present with us and do we show it when we welcome the stranger in our midst? I believe the answer is "yes" and we are setting the right course and getting better all the time.

Does our worship service encourage you and others to become better Disciples of Christ? Are we involved in an ever deepening relationship with God and each other? Look for more on this subject through studies and other diverse opportunities within our church and community.

Does our church community need reconciliation and is there a positive way that we advocate for justice and peace within all our relationships? I, as a church leader, pray that any persons who have issues with our decision making process or with decisions we have made, realize that anyone can serve our church, rarely is anyone too old, and in my experience, you are all needed and very much wanted. Step up and find the way Jesus would solve the issue, if you have one.....murmuring and gossip has no place within a healthy fellowship.

Finally, how do we serve others less fortunate than we and do those services reflect our mission to make Disci-

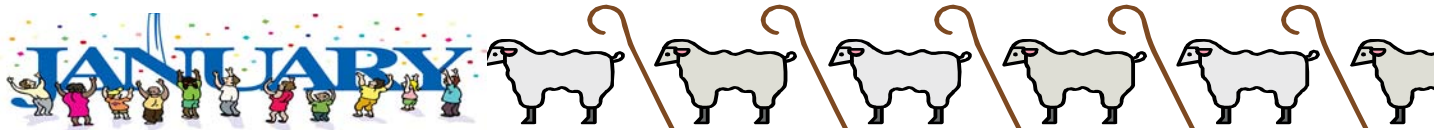
ples of Jesus Christ? Through our stewardship giving and offerings, giving as we are instructed, backed up by faith in God's word, we will succeed. How do you think we are doing?

I know that this article has a lot of questions, but you are the 'church'. You have the answers to the questions. Burning Bush, which is now known as Igniting Ministry, is a congregational process. Everyone is involved and if you are not involved in some way, please step forward and find a place, there is not one committee, special event, or bible study, that will not use and appreciate your talent.

Are you a disciple of Jesus? How many more have you brought to Him and His gift of salvation?

New Small Group starting Jan. 12th, "Surprises, Surprises"

Each meeting will explore one way to deepen your spiritual life. There are six sessions. Some ways will be familiar and some will not but all will be interesting, fun, and prayer-filled. Come and start the new year with an exciting new group. Meetings will be held on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30 - 5:45 in order to accommodate people who work and still get us home for dinner! See Bobye Anderson or Eva Peterson.



Impact Of Tax Law Changes On Charitable Giving

On December 17 the president signed into law the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010. This much-anticipated legislation features continuation of tax cuts that were scheduled to expire, extension of unemployment benefits, and other measures designed to stimulate the economy. The portion of the law with perhaps the most immediate impact on charitable giving is the extension of the ability for those over 70 ½ to make gifts to charity directly from a traditional or Roth IRA for both 2010 and 2011. The donor's taxable income is then reduced by the amount of the gift. Because of the

short time remaining to take advantage of this incentive for 2010, Congress has provided that donors can make gifts completed by January 31, 2011 be deemed made in 2010 for tax purposes, and those gifts will count toward the donor's 2010 minimum withdrawal requirements.

This is a highly favorable provision for making contributions to Church Stewardship or Capital Campaign pledges either for 2010 or 2011. To be valid, the contribution must come directly from the IRA to the Church. For questions contact Bob Dinsmore (508-540-2183) or request a brochure in the Church Office.

Message from Director of Christian Education

by Debra Bostwick

Welcome to a new year! The month of January brings the celebration of Epiphany, and with that the baptism of Jesus. On January the 9th, we will be focusing on baptism and what it means, with activities to celebrate the baptism of Jesus. January 16th is world religion day, a day to honor our religious freedom, and January 17th is Martin Luther King Day in which we recognize freedom for all and the peace within us. In honor of these two special days, on Sunday the 16th we will acknowledge school students and teachers, as they our religious freedom and the peace that comes with it. January 16th is a very special day for our high school students and teachers, as they will be the creators of the 8:30 service! We are very excited and look forward to seeing you there. Our Sunday School classes will be learning a new song to share with you. January 30th marks the end of the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany cycle. Please continue to watch our growing bulletin board in the parish hall chronicling our activities. Happy and Healthy New Year to you All!



**Restore us,
O God Almighty;
make your face shine
upon us, that we
may be saved.**

Psalm 80:7, NIV

