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# Directions for the Trail

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



### Graduates:

If you are graduating from 8th grade, High School or College, please let the church office know (687-2317). We want to recognize you!



**W**ell the last couple of months have sure been busy ones for our congregation.

Our Disciple Formation Process (DFP) launch "The Trail" introduced a whole new vision and challenge to each of us.

We celebrated once again the joy and blessing of being EASTER PEOPLE with special Palm Sunday and Easter services.

We filled the church again the following Sunday as we confirmed 12 youth and received 15 new members on Profession of Faith.

Our Devotions for Disciples book is printed and out for us to read and enjoy.

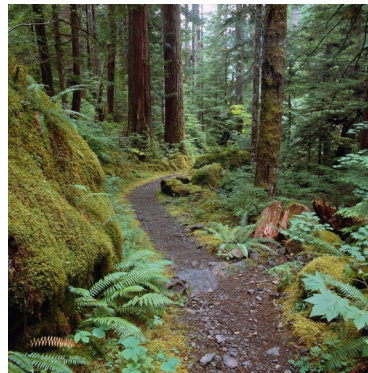
A new Sunday School class has started.

The church is evaluating the decision to relocate offices to the former parsonage.

And I could list more but this is just an example of what is happening in our midst.

There is however one more item I do wish to mention. Did you know you can go back and watch much of this on the Internet using the YouTube website. In the midst of all this activity a new ministry has emerged which is also reaching hundreds of people.

Elements of our services are being videoed and posted on the YouTube website each



week. If you go to the YouTube website and type in "Murphysboro UMC" you can watch selections of our worship services over the past several weeks as well as the DFP video that we viewed in worship.

This is just one more way our congregation is attempting to reach a whole new population of people and increase the

scope of our mission of making disciples. It is also becoming an important way for our shut-ins and those who have moved from our area to remain connected with our church.

I recently heard that Myrtle McKinnie viewed several of our video segments and was so thrilled to be able to join us in worship through the opportunity technology offers us.

While I celebrate both the blessing and the challenges all this activity brings I recognize how many have given so much to make it possible. To them I say thank you and may God richly bless all who have worked, are working, and all who have received the benefits of your labors.

See you on the Trail,

Larry A. Gilbert





## MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1 - "Serving From the Heart" Small Group, 6:30 pm
- 3 - Scouts Roundtable, 6 pm
- 4 - Adult Spiritual Formation, 8 am
- 5 - Women's Prayer Breakfast, 9 am
- 6 - Graduate Breakfast, 8 am / Graduate Sunday
- 7 - Relay For Life, 5:30 pm / Girl Scouts-troop 8189, 6 pm
- 8 - Young @ Heart Lunch, 12 pm / Board of Trustees, 6 pm /  
"Serving From the Heart" Small Group, 6:30 pm  
Finance Meeting, 7 pm
- 9 - Staff Meeting, 9:30 am / Service & Missions Meeting, 7 pm
- 10 - Perpetual Motion Meeting, 6 pm / Girl Scouts, 6 pm
- 13 - Happy Mother's Day!
- 14 - Nurture & Care Meeting, 7 pm
- 15 - "Serving From the Heart" Small Group, 6:30 pm
- 20 - Blessing of the Pets Service, 4 pm / CYF/JYF, 4 pm / Neighborhood  
Prayer Walk, 6 pm
- 21 - Girl Scouts-troop 8189, 6 pm
- 22 - Church Council Meeting, 6 pm
- 24 - Girl Scouts, 6 pm
- 27 - Hospitality Ministry Meeting, 11:15 am / CYF/JYF Movie Night, 4:30 pm
- 28 - Memorial Day, office closed



Tuesdays: Cub Scouts, 6 pm  
 Wednesdays: Chancel Choir Practice, 6 pm / Boy Scouts, 6 pm  
 Saturdays: Handbell Practice, 9 am / AA Meeting, 10 am



**May 13: Mother's Day, no meetings**

**May 20:** CYF/JYF participating in **Blessing of the Pets**, 4 - 5:30 p.m.  
Meal at 5:30 p.m., **Community Prayer Walk**, 6 p.m.

**May 27:** CYF/JYF  4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

- \*CYF: Christian Youth Fellowship (3rd - 5th grade)
- \*JYF: Junior Youth Fellowship (6th - 8th grade)
- \*Sr. UMYF: United Methodist Youth Fellowship  
(9th - 12th Grade)



### Ushers

*Todd Doody  
 Gary Likins  
 Andy McNitt  
 Jennifer Watson  
 London Watson  
 Kyle Miller*

### Sunday Stewards

*Gary Likins  
 Todd Lirely  
 Bob Morefield  
 Ken Cline  
 Frank Boucher  
 Francis Addison*

### Welcome Center

#### Hostesses

**May 6**  
*Adrienne Will  
 Barb Hughes*  
**May 13**  
*Rosie Wece  
 Julie Peterson*  
**May 20**  
*Rosie Wece  
 Julie Peterson*  
**May 27**  
*Sharon Graff  
 Pam Crews*

#### Acolytes

**May 6**  
*Maddie Bean  
 Cole McNitt*  
**May 13**  
*Mason Schingel  
 Caitlin Doody*  
**May 20**  
*Olivia Schaldemose  
 Tyler Doody*  
**May 27**  
*Ben Barringer  
 Cadence Brown*



# “SWEETER THAN HONEY”

## Woman's Prayer Breakfast Saturday, May 5, 2012

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Murphysboro UMC Fellowship Hall

***For women of all ages, 13 and over***

**Day Care will BEE provided**

Buzz.... on in for a time of fellowship, music, a light breakfast fit for a Queen, and a time of heartwarming fellowship with other Sweet women.

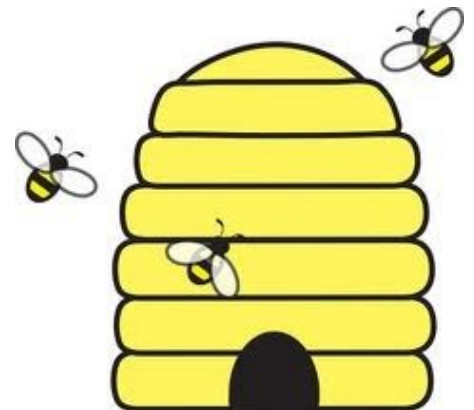
*Mark your calendar today.*

Reach out and invite other sweet women to join you.

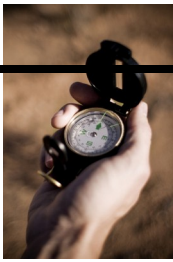
*Let's get our buzzin' going in the right direction and live life to the fullest for the Lord!*

If you have questions please contact the Queen Bee, Rosie Wece, at 618-687-3309 or [gwece@wecefarms.com](mailto:gwece@wecefarms.com)

***Sponsored by the Adult Spiritual Formation Ministry***







**Praying Out Loud Workshop**  
**Thursdays, June 7—21**  
**6-8 p.m.**  
**Led by Pastor Larry**



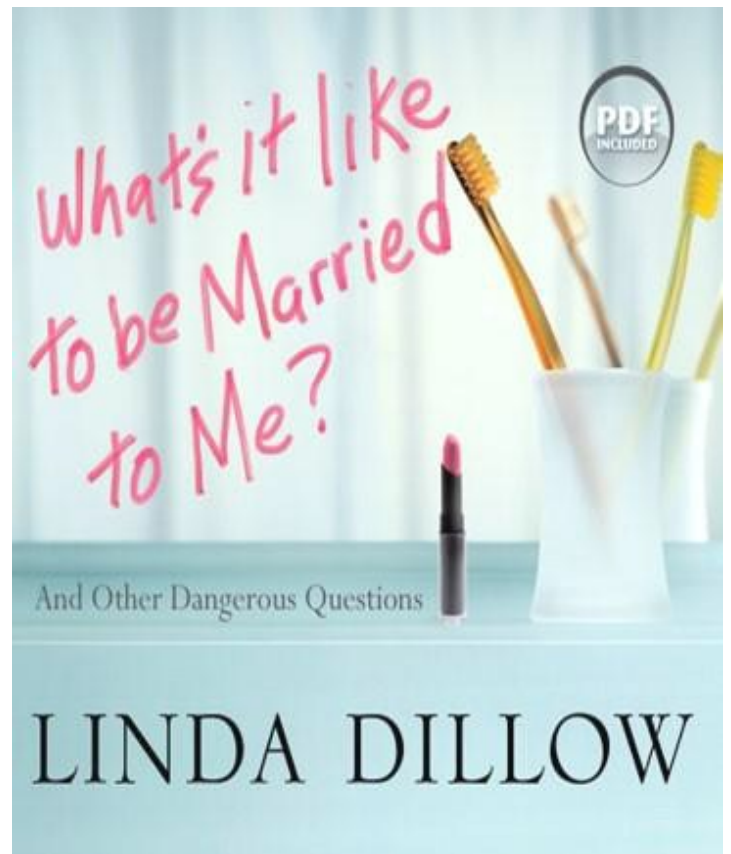
It's always amazing to me how often we expect ourselves and/or others to be able to do things, which we have never been taught or trained to do. This is especially true in the church when it comes to the discipline of prayer and offer a prayer out loud to a group.

For many praying alone has it's challenges and then you add the fact that now you have to do it in front of people and many if not most people are anxious or even down right afraid.

We don't worry. Praying out loud with others is a skill, which almost anyone can be taught. With the proper small steps and understanding the barriers involved almost anyone can grow at ease in this practice.

For three weeks I will gather with those who would like to learn to overcome the anxiety associated with praying out loud. We will study, learn and, yes, pray together as we develop this discipline in our lives.

Meeting times: Thursday, June 7 - 6-8 p.m.  
 Thursday, June 14 - 6-8 p.m.  
 Thursday, June 21 - 6-8 p.m.

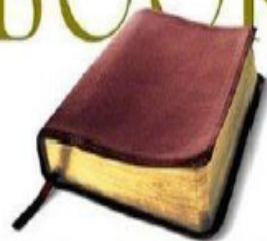


**MEN's and WOMEN's**  
**BIBLE STUDY**

HOWARD G. HENDRICKS  
 WILLIAM D. HENDRICKS

MORE THAN 300,000 SOLD

**LIVING**  
**BY THE**  
**BOOK**



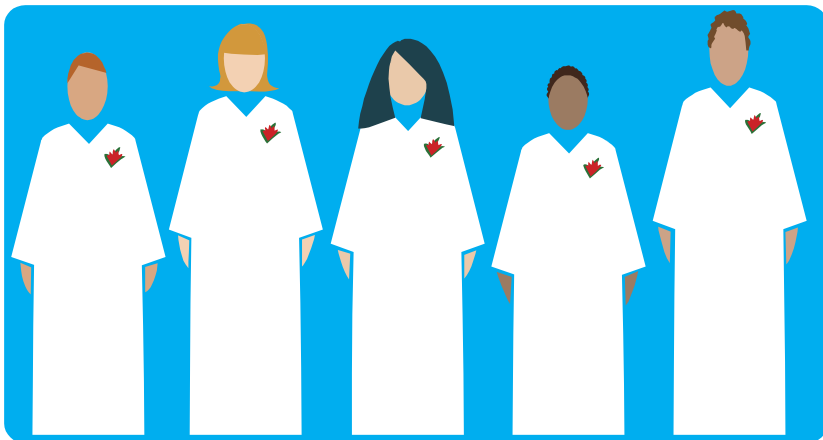
Revised and Updated  
 FOREWORD BY CHARLES R. SWINDOLL

Learn how to study  
 your bible.

June 12<sup>th</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>  
 10-11:30 a.m.

Video based study  
 Led by Scarlett Pierson  
 Sign-up coming soon!

This is a Bible study curriculum is tailor-fit to equip and train you to be able to study the Bible in an organized, systematic way with easy to follow instructions and guidelines.



## Kudos to Our Confirmands

On Sunday, April 15th, twelve young people of our congregation were confirmed in the Lord in a beautiful service. They are: **Briana Bean, Emma Bigham, Emily Finke, Cole Fletcher, Brandon Graeff, Connor Graeff, Olivia Graff, Cole McNitt, Braden Miller, Brittany Nolan, Mason Schingel & Asia Watson.** Please encourage these young people in their walk with Christ!



## NEW MEMBERS!!

Also on Sunday, April 15th **Brian & Lisa Bustos, Patrick Yates and Chris & Stephanie Finke** pledged their membership with our congregation. On April 22, **Donna Lynn Hornicek** pledged her membership with our congregation. Please make these new members feel welcome in their new church family.



**"AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, I AM SENDING YOU."**

JOHN 20:21, NIV



## COUPON FLOWER SALE

Sponsored by  
**METHODISTS ON A MISSION RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM**  
**\$15.00**

The \$15.00 coupon entitles you to one of the following:  
10" basket, , 4 four inch pots, 4 five inch pots, or one flat of annuals  
These coupons may be redeemed at **McNitt Growers**, located at 78 Oak Ridge Lane, Carbondale, IL. (Travel south on route 127 until you see the sign).

**\*\*\*\*All coupons must be redeemed by Saturday, May 12, 2012.**

Hours of operation: Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Sunday 1-4 p.m.  
\*\*\*NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH\*\*\*

## Mother's Day Dessert Auction



Methodists on a Mission – Relay For Life Team

will hold their annual Dessert Silent Auction on Mother's Day, May 13<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. Auction will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 10:20 a.m. (before Sunday School). Bid early and often. All proceeds go to the **American Cancer Society.**



## Blessing of the Animals

Over the past month or so you may have heard about a new service we are planning: The Blessing of the Pets. Now honestly when you first hear this it kinda makes the corners of your mouth creep up in a grin doesn't it and you think – really are you serious?

**YOU BET, WE ARE DEAD SERIOUS.**

We are serious about reaching a brand new population of people and extending to them a ministry of hospitality and openness. We are serious about getting beyond the walls of our building and opening ourselves up to the people of our community. And since we know one of the things many people are very serious about is their pets this seems like the perfect avenue to begin a whole group of new relationships.

Our service is planned for Sunday afternoon May 20<sup>th</sup> at the pavilion, so pray for excellent weather that day. We are doing this new service in partnership with the St. Francis C.A.R.E. animal welfare organization and interested partners who have just stepped forward and volunteered to be a part of the day.

This is just one of several new ministries in our church to reach the people of our community and extend to them the hand of fellowship.

So if you have a pet be sure to bring it on the 20<sup>th</sup>. If your neighbor has a pet be sure to tell them about the service. If you don't have a pet it will be a great time to just come, help out and mingle with the people of Murphysboro and practice your ministry of radical hospitality.

I am so excited about this ministry and just look forward to a fun-filled afternoon.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help please call the church office or contact Trina Eaton at 713-6041 or [trina.eaton1@gmail.com](mailto:trina.eaton1@gmail.com).

# *First Annual* **Blessing of the Animals**






**CO-HOSTED BY:**

**United Methodist Church of Murphysboro  
St. Francis Community Animal Rescue And Education**

*A FREE EVENT FOR PEOPLE, BIG AND SMALL  
WITH PETS FURRY TO FEATHERED.*

All God's creatures will be welcomed at  
**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MURPHYSBORO PAVILION ON 16TH & PINE**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2012**  
**4:00 P.M.**

All animals must be brought in carriers or on leashes  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT 618-687-2317

-  TREATS FOR ALL (THANKS TO EARL'S PEARLS FOR THE HOMEMADE PET TREATS)
-  BANDANAS FOR THE FIRST 50 PETS
-  INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR ALL PETS AND THEIR HUMANS

*Please join us!*





Young at Heart

## May Menu

Potato bar with all the fixings, strawberry shortcake

### Program: Remember/Honor Mothers

**It's a day to remember our mothers! - May 8 at Young at Heart**

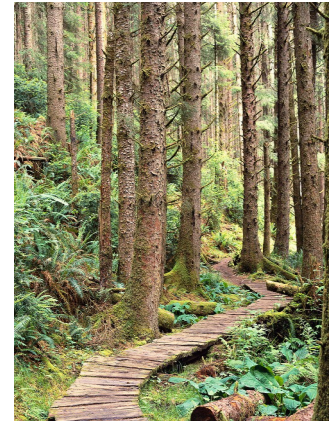
Women, do you have clothing your mother wore? Why not wear those items to Young at Heart?

Is it a hat, shoes, dress, etc.? **Men, don't dress like your mother. But men and women have momentos from our mothers.** Bring them. Display them. Be prepared to tell us about these items.

Do you have pictures of your late mothers? Bring them for display. Tell us why they were special.

Lunch is at noon, cost is \$5.00. Please make your reservation on Sunday, May 6 on the church attendance pad.

May is national health awareness month. This is a great time to stop and take note of our "family tree of health". Just make a list of diseases or conditions that you know were in your family history. Why? Many diseases have a tendency to be inherited. Did grandma or grandpa have cancer? Did anyone have a stroke? Heart diseases, diabetes, arthritis, migraine headaches, are just some of the health information that should be passed along to our children and grandchildren. A list of these could be kept in the baby book.



Enjoy Spring... take a walk.

Willa Addison  
Parish nurse associate  
Your health ministry team

## ATTENDANCE TRENDS

### United Methodist Church of Murphysboro

2011 First 17 Sundays *total* 3,197  
*average* 188

2012 First 16 Sundays *total* 3,427  
*average* 214 Year to date +28

For the Trail Series, 1st Sunday of February through April 15

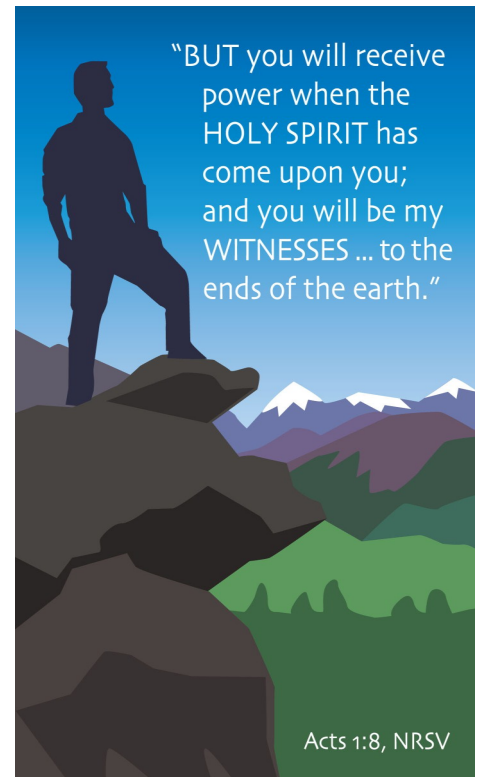
2011 *total* 2,313 *average* 193

2012 *total* 2,568 *average* 233

Year to date +40

Easter attendance was included in the average for both years.

Ponder about God's potential impact on our church and community!



# The Library Corner: News from the UMC Library



## Our DVD Collection is Growing

Books, we have books—but we also have DVDs (and some VHS tapes) too!

The biggest collection of VHS tapes and DVDs is for children. The Veggie Tale DVDs and “The Greatest Adventure” Bible stories, on VHS and DVD are great resources to help children understand and relate to Bible stories and to life values. And they’re fun too!

Veggie Tales titles include:

- ✦ Sheerluck Holmes and the Golden Ruler: A Lesson in Friendship
- ✦ Gideon Tuba Warrior: A Lesson in Trusting God
- Tomato Sawyer and Larry’s Big River Rescue: A Lesson In Helping Others

The *Greatest Adventure* series includes “Noah’s Ark”, “The Miracles of Jesus”, and “Moses” (all on DVD), and on VHS there is “Jonah”, “Daniel and the Lion’s Den”, “Joshua and the Battle of Jericho”. And there are more!

The library also has the BBC series on the “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” for older children (and we have the paperback books also). Also for older children or family viewing is “Where the Red Fern Grows” about a boy and his dogs during the depression, and his efforts to help his family.

“Soul Surfer” and “Chariots of Fire” are new additions to the library for family or adult viewing. “Grace Card”, about the power of forgiveness is another new movie, starring Louis Gosset Jr.

The *George Eliot* DVD collection contains “Silas Marner” (remember that book from somewhere in your past?) and other stories based on *George Eliot’s* keen observations of human nature.

We also have study resources for adults: “Start—becoming a Good Samaritan”, and “Anointed, Transformed, and Redeemed” are two of them.

We are still working on building up the Church DVD collection. If you have thoughts or suggestions on DVDs for children, adults, or family viewing, please let us know.

**Good Library News!** The Seeker’s Sunday School class, which has met in the Church Library for a number of years, has moved to another classroom. The library is now open during the Sunday School hour for anyone who wants to browse, do some research, or just find a little peace, inspiration, or entertainment among some good books.

## *On the Light Side...*

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building.

Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. “Here’s a copy of the service,” he said impatiently. “But, you’ll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances.”

During the service, the minister paused and said, “Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up.”

At that moment, the substitute organist played “The Star Spangled Banner.”

And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!





**Stewardship Report by the Numbers**  
**January-March 2012**



66	<b>PLEDGED</b>
\$ 57,501	<b>AMOUNT GIVEN</b>
\$ 871	<b>AVERAGE PER PLEDGED GIVER</b>
49	<b>NON-PLEDGED</b>
\$ 22,807	<b>AMOUNT GIVEN</b>
\$ 465	<b>AVERAGE PER NON-PLEDGE GIVER</b>

**Major amounts given for Service & Missions:**

Imagine No Malaria	\$ 1,871	M'boro Senior Fest	\$ 100
Methodists on a Mission	\$ 1,827	U.M. Village	\$ 217
Library Fund	\$ 575	World Vision	\$ 240
Christmas Dinner	\$ 558	Gum Drop Kids	\$ 302
Harrisburg Tornado	\$ 1,450	Food Pantry	\$ 829

The Finance Committee has reviewed the first 3 months of 2012 income and expenses. It is good to report that overall giving is close to what was projected. The Service & Mission's giving shown above of \$7,969 is in excess of the regular offerings . During the first quarter, the operating income was favorable. The expectation of increased participation in camping will be our largest program expense this summer. We have wanted this ministry to blossom and it has!

Other items that are important include the current balance of the Renovation Loan is down to \$270,190. The Elevator Fund Balance is \$23,489. The March 31, 2012 market value of the church investments is \$235,163. The Board of Trustees (BOT) receives an average of \$838 per month of dividends from investments and \$222 per month from designated offerings to use for building expenses. The principal amounts of the investments are not used for expenses and are restricted by the BOT.

The Finance Committee



United Methodist Church  
1500 Pine Street  
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Ministers: The Congregation  
Pastor: Larry A. Gilbert  
Coordinator of Ministries: Earl R. Renshaw  
Discipleship Coordinator: Teresa Gilbert  
Office Secretary: Chris Breznikar  
Financial Secretary: Christine Nolan

Phone: 618-687-2317  
Fax: 618-687-2604  
E-mail: murphysboroumc@frontier.com

**We're On The Web!**  
[www.MurphysboroUMC.com](http://www.MurphysboroUMC.com)

### Prayer Chain...

If you desire prayer, please contact Janis Crews at 534-9404 or Barb Zimmerman at 201-9599.

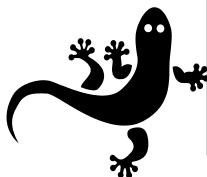


**Open Hearts.  
Minds.  
Doors.**  
The United Methodist Church

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Worship Service:  
9:00 A.M.**

**Sunday School:  
10:10 A.M.**



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Murphysboro, IL  
Permit No. 63

Return service requested

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## In May

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 4-Allen Bigham<br>Peggy Schuster     | 14-Vanessa Lirely<br>Hallee Ticer      |
| 6-Andrew Wilson                      | 15-Jordan Williams                     |
| 7-Cheyenne Abbadusky<br>Rick Korando | 17-Kristi Miller                       |
| 8-Jeanette Hudgins                   | 23-Kristal Morefield<br>Carol Wehmeyer |
| 9-Madison Runge<br>Candace Watt      | Duke Watson                            |
| 10-Lindsey Hewlett<br>Matthew Trower | 24-Dolores McNitt                      |
| 12-Belinda Nation                    | 26-Carolyn Sauer                       |
| 13-Landess Mills                     | 27-Roger Medlen                        |
|                                      | 29-Rick Pierson, Sr.                   |
|                                      | 31-Debbie Korando                      |

- 2-Rick & Durice Runge  
Dan & Jennifer Watson  
5-Chris & Cindy Gordon  
8-Chad & Holly Fletcher  
18-Frank & Sid Boucher  
19-Bill & Thelma Pierson  
26-Josh & Allison Barringer  
27-Andy & Nancy McNitt  
31-Curt & Cindy Presley

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear in the Compass please call the church office.



### Called Home to Heaven

We offer our sincere sympathy to the family of Elda Schwebel who passed away April 19, 2012 and to the family of Sandra Stiegman who passed away April 20, 2012.

There will be a memorial worship remembering Pat Chamness, a former member of our congregation. The worship will be in the sanctuary at noon on May 5. Pat, her late husband Gale, and all three children at one time were members here.

All information for the Compass must be in the church office by the 20th of each month.