

St. John's, Bem  
United Church  
Of Christ

# The Scoop!

March, 2010

*"...no matter who you  
are or where you are  
on life's journey,  
you are welcome here  
in the United Church  
of Christ..."*

## *From the Pastor's Keyboard...*

## *"Being Christ in the World"*

*(From USA Today): "DUBLIN, Ireland — "I don't go to church, and I don't know one person who does," says Brian Kenny, 39, who is studying psychotherapy and counseling at Dublin Business School. "Fifteen years ago, I didn't know one person who didn't."*

*"Church attendance in Ireland, though still among the highest in Western Europe, has fallen from about 85% to 60% from 1975 to 2004, according to the Dublin Archdiocese."*

*"Ireland is not an exception. Every major religion except Islam is declining in Western Europe, according to the Center for the Study on Global Christianity at the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, Mass. The drop is most evident in France, Sweden and the Netherlands, where church attendance is less than 10% in some areas."*

*As one for whom church is such a relevant part of an expression of faith, this article from USA Today first brings to mind questions about the future of Christianity in Europe, the homeland of our Evangelical Heritage. While Ireland is highlighted in the snippet I copied above, the article goes on to talk about decline in France, Britain, Norway, Spain, even Germany, from where so many of our Bem Church ancestors hailed. Reading that article, my heart went out to the European community; and I have to admit that a small part of me was relieved that this was happening in Europe, not here.*

*Then I typed our attendance report in this month issue of "The Scoop" (Page 8).*

*"But I can be just as religious/spiritual sitting in my armchair sipping a latte as I can be in church," a friend from St. Louis commented. Yes, but God does not call us to be religious/spiritual. God calls us to be Christian; and Christ was a part of a community of faith that labored day in and out to be God's Good News together; in and with the world. To be a Christian is not to "believe in Christ" as we sit in our armchair on Sunday morning; to be a Christian is to continue Christ's ministry; working as a part of a community to further God's mission of peace, love and justice. This work is being done by Bem Church; but it cannot be done nearly as effectively without you. We need you; the church needs you; God needs you. I hope to see you in church next Sunday!*

*-Pastor Rick*

## **St. John's, Bem United Church of Christ**

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Organist: Jamie Schultz

Custodian: Nancy Kohrmann

Cemetery Sexton: Lee Kreter

Sunday School Coordinator: Suzan Wilson

Visual Arts Coordinators: The Aytes Family

## **THE UCC AIDS 150,000 IN HAITI- AND THE NEED CONTINUES**

Our media outlets are filled with information about the tragic earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010. As members of the United Church of Christ, we are in solidarity with those whose lives were forever changed in mere moments that Tuesday afternoon. We are also aiding those in need in incredible ways; through the United Church of Christ, the denomination that joins us together and makes us all one.

Six weeks after the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti, the ACT alliance (Actions by Churches Together, of which the United Church of Christ is a partner) has assisted more than 150,000 people with direct aid, according to published reports. With steady support continually rolling in from key organizations, most of the aid has gone toward supplying fresh water, sanitation efforts, shelter, meals and food staples. Relief items and services including family kits, hygiene kits, medical assistance and health clinic supplies continue to be distributed.

As a vital participant in the ACT alliance, the United Church of Christ is assisting some of the most vulnerable among the victims in Port-au-Prince, Gressier, Jacmel and Bainet in the south. As of Monday (2/22), earthquake-relief gifts sent to the United Church of Christ totaled \$1,304,864 including \$425,737 in online donations.

A steady flow of relief efforts continue on many levels, in many places. Susan Sanders, the UCC's minister for global sharing of resources, says that churches and other civil society networks in Haiti and in the Dominican Republic are working with members of the ACT alliance on both sides of the border. It is estimated that more than 450,000 people have sought refuge in rural areas.

Conditions for most of the estimated 1.2 million people living in temporary camps and shelters remain unbearably cramped and poor. The United Nations estimates that only 280,000 people, or 25% of those in these camps, have received materials needed to provide the temporary shelter they need. Sanitary facilities are a premium as well; there are only 3000 restroom facilities among these temporary camps providing services these displaced people. Often, 200 people or more have only one toilet to share.

Within the next month, ACT members will continue to increase the number of people benefitting from their activities with continued focus on shelter, water, sanitation, food, hygiene and other distributions. The United Church of Christ will continue to be a major player in these and other relief efforts in Haiti for many years to come.

Bem Church is an active participant in these relief efforts as we give our regular contributions to ***Our Church's Wider Mission*** through our Mission Fund offerings. When we give to the Mission Fund 85% of that money goes to ***Our Church's Wider Mission***. That money is sent to our Missouri Mid-South Conference Office, where 75% of it stays right here in Missouri. The other 25% is sent to our national offices in Cleveland, enabling them to station missionaries in 83 countries all over the world, even Haiti. These missionaries are ready to serve at all times; but especially when natural disasters happen, such as this one in Haiti. Our gifts to ***Our Church's Wider Mission*** are helping our church share God's Love with those in need all over the world!

*Do you receive the UCC daily devotional each morning via email? If not, talk to Pastor Rick or visit [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org) and click on the "Daily Devotional" tab!*

### **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING- MARCH MISSION OF THE MONTH**

In his last moments with his disciples, Jesus passionately repeated his instructions to them three distinct times: If you love me, feed my sheep; take care of the people I so deeply love. Live your love for me by actively tending these for whom I have sacrificed everything.

We are called to show our love by doing the following: giving food to the hungry; clean water to the thirsty; clothing to the naked; healthcare to the sick; welcome to the refugee and the stranger; sharing strength and refuge with the fearful; rescuing those in danger; and bringing justice to the oppressed.

Ialakot, Pakistan, a “tent city” is home to hundreds of earthquake survivors. Living there has its difficulties, but it is better than having no place to live. Supported by the United Church of Christ through our gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing** and our partnership with Church World Services (CWS) and Action by Churches Together (ACT), this camp provides food, clean water, health clinics, and educational opportunities for its residents; all of whom are eager to return to their homes one day.

In Belgrade, Serbia, Magdalena Tomic is a polite and quick student at Branko Pesic Primary School. Many of the students who attend her school are ethnic Roma and vulnerable to discrimination. With assistance from **One Great Hour of Sharing** and Church World Services, the parents of these children have received small micro-credit loans and started their own businesses. Parents themselves enrolled in classes and learned new skills and new ways of earning a living. They are grateful for the opportunity to support their children’s development, too! Now the children are being fed; minds as well as bodies.

In the Dominican Republic, Jose Pena grows vegetables and sells his produce at the market, helping to better provide for his family. With support from **One Great Hour of Sharing**, Jose and other families are led by missionaries and educators who help teach them how to best grow and sell the fruits of their labors. Pena and his community take it from there, using what they earn to buy school materials for their children, and provide better lives for themselves. Their advancement allows them to purchase medicine and basic health supplies. Through your contributions to **One Great Hour of Sharing**, the United Church of Christ has helped Jose work smarter, not harder; work that is paying off now like never before.

In challenging times, we often wonder how much we can afford to sacrifice to help feed Jesus’ sheep, when our own needs are barely being met. Perhaps only through prayer can that question be answered. Do you recall the feeding of the 5000 when Jesus asked the disciples to feed the hungry crowd? The disciples despaired. The five loaves and two fish seemed insignificant to the massive need. Yet with God’s blessing, what seemed like so little turned into a miracle of compassion for all. Through **One Great Hour of Sharing**, our gifts meet compelling needs, while also bringing the blessing of compassion into our own lives!

### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2010**

Vicky Huebner, President; Keith Glaser, Vice President; Pat Branson, Treasurer;  
Dee Ruegge, Secretary; Debbie Adams and Willis Howard, Trustees;  
and Diana Halmick, Pastor Parish Relations Committee Representative.

***Don’t forget your food pantry items this week! Bring a meal for Helping Hands!***

## **SCRIPTURES FOR MARCH**

During the month of March, we encompass the Lenten season and focus intently on Jesus' Journey to the Cross. These are the scripture readings and topics we will be exploring in worship during the month of March. Read ahead!

### **March 7<sup>th</sup>- Communion Sunday "Perplexed by Parables"**

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-9  
Psalter Lesson: Psalm 63:1-8  
Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:1-9

### **March 14- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent "Parables as Subversive Speech"**

Hebrew Scripture: Joshua 5:9-12  
Psalter Lesson: Psalm 32  
Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

### **March 21<sup>st</sup>- New Members Received "Extravagant Faith"**

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21  
Psalter Lesson: Psalm 126  
Gospel Lesson: John 12:1-8

### **March 28<sup>th</sup>- Palm/Passion Sunday "Following Christ: Palms to Passion"**

Gospel Lesson: Luke 19:28-40  
Psalter Lesson: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Epistle Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11

## **SPECIAL GUEST WEDNESDAY EVENINGS DURING LENT!**

We will gather for worship each Wednesday during Lent as we focus on the final week of Jesus' life. Each Wednesday will highlight a different day, and the significant event that distilled Jesus' ministry in such a rich way that final week. ***Our special guest in worship each Wednesday will be Peter, the Apostle as he relates that day's events to us.*** Prior to worship at 7:00pm, we will have supper together at 6:00pm, hosted by our church groups. Come for table fellowship at 6:00, and stay for worship at 7:00. ***This is an important part of our journey to Easter- be here!***

### **Wednesday evening worship schedule 2010:**

***Wednesday, March 3, 10, 17, 24- Supper at 6:00; Worship at 7:00***

## **HOSANNA: AN EVENING BIBLE STUDY DURING LENT**

"Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey through Holy Week" is a five part Kerygma series that invites participants to explore the main texts in all four Gospels and in Paul's writings that deal specifically with the last week of Jesus' life, and the Resurrection. Each of the Gospel writers has a reason for relating these events in their particular way. Each wants his audience to come to see who Jesus is, and what God is doing through him. For this study, Paul is crucial as well.

We will be gathering Tuesday, February 23; No class the week of March 1; Then the next four Tuesdays; March 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 6:30pm each day. For more information, talk to Pastor Rick.

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2010**

The highlight of the Christian year is Holy Week; when we celebrate Christ's lessons of *service, sacrifice, steadfast love and salvation*. We will celebrate with five very important services:

***March 28, 10:00am: Palm/Passion Sunday-*** be present as triumph turns to betrayal

***April 1, 7:00pm: Maundy Thursday-*** Christ teaches us to be servants to all

***April 2, 7:00pm: Good Friday-*** Christ shows the ultimate love for us

***April 4, 7:00am & 10:00am- Easter!*** Resurrection Celebration! Death is not the end!

Breakfast will be served between worship services on Easter. Be a part of the entire Holy Week journey, not just one small part; and walk with Jesus this Easter Season!

### **ELECTRONIC GIVING IS POSSIBLE AT ST. JOHN'S, BEM!**

The Church Council of St. John's, Bem United Church of Christ has investigated offering the option of online giving, weighing the costs and benefits, and has determined that it would be beneficial to offer this possibility to our community. We are in the process of registering with e-Give USA, a company headquartered in St. Louis. Once we are registered in their system, setting up your weekly (or whatever frequency you prefer) contribution to Bem Church will be easily facilitated using their website at [www.egive-usa.com](http://www.egive-usa.com). (*If* you chose to use this service. If not, that is okay, too!) E-Give partners with secure providers to keep transactions safe; will remit collected funds to us on a weekly basis; and will provide us (Carole) weekly with a report of all donations received and designations that may have been attached.

Four benefits to Electronic Giving:

1. ***You are taking a step of faith*** – When you sign up to eGive you are deciding in advance to faithfully give. Your stewardship is not subject to weekly whims; you are taking a leap of faith!
2. ***You will simplify your life*** – You won't have to remember whether you gave this month or need to send in an offering by mail when you are on a trip.
3. ***You will be helping the church*** – Every person who gives through eGive makes our record keeping much easier and the consistency eases the monthly payments of the bills of the church. You will help the Church keep up its cash flow during the summer vacation months, and when the quarterly insurance bills are due.
4. ***You can focus on worship during the offering at church*** – You can focus on God while the offering is being taken.

Watch for more information in the next week or so about how you can sign up for e-Give!

### **HYGIENE ITEM FOR HELPING HANDS- DEODORANT!**

The Mission Committee has been collecting hygiene items for Helping Hands Outreach Center. Over the past year, we have collected shampoo, soap and toothpaste. The next item we will be requesting is- deodorant! Next time you are at the store, please pick up some extra stick deodorant (not the spray kind, please!) and bring it to church for our hygiene collection. Boxes are on the chancel in front of the pulpit. We have set a goal of 300 sticks of deodorant, reflecting the 300 families served monthly by Helping Hands. Thank you for your support!

### **THE PANTRY IS GETTING BARE! DON'T FORGET HELPING HANDS!**

Our hygiene item collections have dwindled off in recent months, and the food pantry box is getting quite bare! ***We seem to be forgetting our commitment to Helping Hands Outreach Center!*** Don't forget to pick up some extra food when you are at the store; and pick up some deodorant for our hygiene collection! The need is steadily increasing at Helping Hands; they are now helping over 300 families every month! Yet, while their needs are increasing, contributions to our box are dwindling. ***Let's pick up the pace and fill the shelves at Helping Hands!***

### **SAVE YOUR BEST CHOICE LABELS**

One of the many missions of the Pairs and Spares organization is to undergird the mission of Bem Church. They work towards this goal by accomplishing tasks around the church, lifting folks up spiritually, and aiding our financial goals. One way they aid us financially is through redemption of ***Best Choice Labels***. Please continue to save the UPC Bar Codes from your ***Best Choice Labels*** and drop them off in the Mission Corner of the Sofa Room. Thank you!

**THANK YOU!** *(Some thank you notes may be edited)*

**Dear Friends at St. John's UCC (Bem)**

Greetings from Eden Seminary! Thank you for your recent gift of \$101.50 on 1/2/10! We are indeed blessed at Eden Seminary by your friendship and dedication as partners in ministry with us. Your ongoing support of Theological Education carries with it important messages that sustain us in our work and study. The two hundred men and women who are studying at Eden this year are reminded they are not alone as they answer God's call to serve the church of Jesus Christ. I am looking forward to sharing time with you on February 28<sup>th</sup>!

**With Thanksgiving, Doni Driemeier-Showers, Director of Development**

**St. John's UCC**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Helping Hands Outreach Center, I wish to thank the members of your congregation for their continuing very generous support of our food pantry operation, and for your January donations. The need continues to mount. From July to December, 2009 we served an average of 324 households (920 individuals) each month. The need continues into 2010. We are grateful for every donation, large and small!

**-Sincerely, Andrew J. Michel, President; Helping Hands Outreach Center**

**TRIVIA NIGHT TO BENEFIT RELAY FOR LIFE**

The Bem Church Relay for Life Team will be sponsoring another Trivia Night this year to benefit the Owensville Relay for Life challenge, which will be June 25-26, 2010. Trivia Night will be March 20, 2010; 7:00pm at the VFW Hall in Owensville. (Doors open at 6:00pm) You are invited and encouraged to attend! Tickets are \$15 for an individual or \$96 for a table of eight (\$12/person if you buy a whole table!) Reserve your table today; talk to Kim Oberle or another member of the Bem Church Relay for Life Team!

If you are interested in being on the Bem Church Relay for Life team, there will be a very brief informational meeting after church on Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Gather around Kim after worship that Sunday, or let her know at another time that you are interested in being a part of the team.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MARCH GATHERING**

The Women's Fellowship Group of Bem Church will be gathering for another fun activity on March 31, 2010 at 6:00pm. As of press time for "The Scoop", details were not finalized yet on the particular activity; watch church bulletins and Sunday morning announcements for more information. If you have not been a part of this new group yet, you are missing out! They have bonded well over the past few months and are really enjoying each others' company. Take the evening off on March 31 and join some new friends in Women's Fellowship at Bem!

**SAVE YOUR INKJET CARTRIDGES!**

What are you doing with your inkjet cartridges when they are empty? Are you just throwing them away? If so, please put them in a plastic bag and bring them to church! We are able to get discounts on our office supply purchases based on inkjet cartridges returned for recycling; a win-win situation! We help the environment with less plastic in landfills, and we help our church budget as well. We are currently getting \$3 for every ink jet cartridge returned! If we get enough cartridges donated, we could cover the cost of our paper, ink and office supplies this way; but we need your help. There is a box in the sofa room for collecting these. Thank you!

***(Our fourth quarter 2009 income from this program was \$228.02!)***

### **MAJOR FINANCIAL GIFT TO BEM CHURCH- COUNCIL TITHES IT!**

Recently, a major gift was given to Bem Church in memory of Doreen Will, who passed away in December, 2009. This gift was from friends and family of Doreen's, folks who were not from the Bem community, who requested that the gift be used as needed for the missions and ministry of the church. Very appreciative of the gift, the Church Council was faced with a dilemma of how to best use it that honors the ministry of Doreen Will's life.

After deliberation, the Church Council decided that while the majority of the gift may go to specific advancements or enhancements in our mutual ministry together, we felt it best to practice Biblical Stewardship with this special gift; and *tithe* a portion of it to God's Ministry beyond the four walls of our church.

What is a tithe? That is a word we often hear tossed around with little thought on its true definition. We are commanded repeatedly in the Hebrew Scriptures to "tithe"; and we read about the "tithes" of our ancestors in the faith. In fact, the subject of tithing comes up 39 times in the Old and New Testaments!

The literal definition of a "tithe" is, "a tenth part of one's income." (American Heritage Dictionary, Third Edition) Biblical teachings from Leviticus to Luke mention the mandates of our ancestors to give a tithe, or a tenth of their income to God's work in the world. Many of our ecumenical partners in other faith traditions carry this mandate into our contemporary context, commanding that members of their denomination contribute 10% of their income to the church, too. In the United Church of Christ we do not levy any such mandates; it is up to individuals to discern God's will in their own lives on how to practice faithful stewardship of their resources.

However, the Bem Church Council agreed that their call and charge is to maintain a Biblical Stewardship model for this community of faith; and to that end, they decided that for this particular large gift, they would tithe; give 10% of it to God's work beyond the four walls of this church. To do this equitably, they decided to give \$50 each month to each of the twelve missions of the month for Bem Church. This monthly gift, by year's end, will be just over 10% of the major gift given; and will hopefully honor Doreen's memory all year long.

### **WOMEN'S RETREAT AT MO-VAL TO FEATURE SPIRITUAL RENEWAL**

One of the Major events at Camp Mo-Val every spring is the Annual Women's Retreat. This annual time of gathering and renewal has become an oasis in a busy year for many women; and a time to reconnect to the faith that encourages us all. It is one of the busiest weekends at Camp Mo-Val and usually camp is filled to capacity with participants.

Calling all Women- you are invited to participate! The 2010 Women's Retreat will be April 30-May 2; the theme is focused on Jesus' commandment from John 15:22: "This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you." More information can be found on the Conference Website: [www.mmsucc.org](http://www.mmsucc.org). The retreat is limited to 120 participants; so get signed up today! For more information, talk to Kim Oberle or Pastor Rick.

### **CHOIR PRACTICE**

The Bem Church Choir continues to practice the first Monday of each month. Come join us!

*What is going on in the United Church of Christ? Check it out at [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)!*

**MARCH SERVICE SCHEDULE**      *Flowers: Fran Huebner*

|  |   |                                     |   |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Nursery Workers:</b><br>3/7: Allison Baker<br>& Sara Whelan | <b>Greeters:</b><br>Brooke Johnson & Dorris Henry<br>Families | <b>Lay Reader:</b><br>Kristin Smith | <b>Acolytes:</b><br>Devin Baxter<br>& Katie Havelka |
| 3/14: Crystal Blankenship<br>& Dana Chapman                    | Chris Lewis Family  | Sable Huebner                       | Andrew Huellinghoff<br>& Joey Oberle                |
| 3/21: Nancy Jenkins<br>& Suzan Wilson                          | Rick Copeland Family  | Marilyn Glaser                      | Devin Baxter<br>& Bryan Aytes                       |
| 3/28: Brenda Sieckmann<br>& Sharon Bacon                       | Linda Blankenship & Debbie<br>Adams Families                  | Alicia Kreter                       | Joey Oberle<br>& Nathan Lewis                       |
| 4/4: Kim Oberle<br>& Jodi Layman                               | Chris Blankenship Family                                      |                                     | Andrew Huellinghoff<br>& Bryan Aytes                |

**BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

3/1- Raegan West; 3/3- Kristopher Havelka, JoAnn Glaser; 3/4- Nick Kohrmann;  
 3/5- Colt Peanick, Steve Adams Sr.; 3/7- Veronica Aytes, Armin Rutz, Dorris Henry;  
 3/8- Tyler Wilson, Margot Schmidt, Vera Kreter;  
 3/10- Cody Peanick, Amelia Wilson; Brooke Echols 3/11- Brittany Jenkins;  
 3/12- Mary Chapman; 3/14- Michelle Huellinghoff; 3/15- April Adkison, Morgan Huebner;  
 3/16- Sahara Huebner, Justin Hall; 3/17- Tammy Havelka; 3/18- Kerri Carey, Delma Rook;  
 3/20- Brant Littrell, Maurice Landwehr, John Rosenbaum, Michael Spurgeon;  
 3/21- Dave Ruffner; 3/22- Lisa Thornton, Robert Neuls, Zach Morris; 3/23- Betty Jean Fleenor;  
 3/24- Dale Havelka; 3/25- Paula Shockley, Jennifer Kelley; 3/27- Jim Smith; 3/28- Julie Wirth;  
 3/29- Bill Wirth, Jacob Kohrmann; 3/30- Ava Parker; 3/31- Darrel Amsden

...Happy Birthday!

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH**

3/7- Pam and Robert Idel

...Happy Anniversary!

**ATTENDANCE**

Date:                      Worship/Sunday School:  
 Sunday, January 3                      115/51  
 Sunday, January 10                      90/53  
 Sunday, January 17                      141/53  
 Sunday, January 24                      113/56  
 Sunday, January 31                      109/  
 Total:                                      568/213  
**Sunday Average:                      113/54**  
**Last Year's Average:                      135/41**

Date:                      Worship/Sunday School:  
 Sunday, February 7                      88  
 Sunday, February 14                      100  
 Sunday, February 21                      91  
 Wednesday, February 17                      55  
 Wednesday, February 21                      47  
 Sunday Total:                                      279  
**Sunday Average:                                      93**  
**Last Year's Average:                                      138**

*Attendance for the first eight weeks of 2010 is 24% lower than the first eight weeks of 2009.  
 (136 average in 2009 vs.103 average in 2010)*

*For a copy of the St. John's, Bem prayer list email Pastor Rick or call the church office!*

## BEM CHURCH FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

|                              |                 |  |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>General Fund</b>          |                 | <b>Memorial Fund CD</b>                      |                 |
| <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>  | <b>\$1528.</b>  | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$1461</b>   |
| Income:                      |                 | <b>Pastor's Housing Equity Fund</b>          |                 |
| Offering                     | \$12,084        | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$2772</b>   |
| Tower                        | \$550           | <b>Etta &amp; Gary Licklider VBS Fund CD</b> |                 |
| Reimbursements               | \$975           | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$10,591</b> |
| Dinners                      | \$1237          | <b>Etta &amp; Gary Licklider VBS Account</b> |                 |
| Other                        | <u>\$256</u>    | <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>                  | <b>\$1005</b>   |
| Total Income                 | \$15,102        | Income: donation                             | \$400           |
| Expense: Budgeted Items      | (\$14,674)      | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$1405</b>   |
| <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b> | <b>\$1956</b>   | <b>Quilters</b>                              |                 |
| <b>Building Fund</b>         |                 | <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>                  | <b>\$1092</b>   |
| <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>  | <b>\$1018.</b>  | Expenses: Supplies                           | (\$699)         |
| Income:                      | \$735           | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$393</b>    |
| Expense:                     |                 | <b>Pairs and Spares</b>                      |                 |
| Repair, Maintenance          | (\$160)         | <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>                  | <b>\$2016</b>   |
| <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b> | <b>\$1593.</b>  | Income: Penny Jar                            | \$77            |
| <b>Cemetery Fund</b>         |                 | Expenses: Mission Work                       | (\$105)         |
| <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>  | <b>\$1321</b>   | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$1988</b>   |
| Income:                      |                 | <b>Mission &amp; Social Concerns</b>         |                 |
| Envelopes                    | \$55            | <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>                  | <b>\$2045</b>   |
| Lot Sales                    | \$350           | Income:                                      | \$17            |
| Apple Butter                 | \$91            | Expenses: Lydia's pins                       | (\$734)         |
| Interest                     | <u>\$85</u>     | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$1328</b>   |
| Total Income                 | \$581           | <b>Youth Fellowship Account</b>              |                 |
| <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b> | <b>\$1902</b>   | <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>                  | <b>\$322</b>    |
| <b>Special Offering Fund</b> |                 | Income: Soda, Misc                           | \$349           |
| <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>  | <b>\$680.</b>   | Expenses                                     | (\$238)         |
| Income: Mission Fund         | \$950.          | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$433.</b>   |
| Other Mission                | <u>\$1032</u>   | <b>Hospitality Committee</b>                 |                 |
| Total Income:                | \$1982          | <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>                  | <b>\$808</b>    |
| Disbursements:               | (\$1873)        | Income:                                      | \$800           |
| <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b> | <b>\$789.</b>   | Expenses:                                    | (\$405)         |
| <b>Memorial/Gift Fund</b>    |                 | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$1203</b>   |
| <b>Balance as of 1-1-10</b>  | <b>\$8736</b>   | <b>Hospitality Committee Savings Account</b> |                 |
| Income: Dee Will Memorials   | \$5165          | <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b>                 | <b>\$585</b>    |
| Disbursements:               |                 |  |                 |
| Video Camera,                |                 |  |                 |
| Sofa Room Doors              | (\$1173)        |  |                 |
| <b>Balance as of 2-15-10</b> | <b>\$12,728</b> |  |                 |

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT: HOW ARE WE DOING IN 2010?

As of February 21, 2010 our Year to Date General Fund offering is **behind** our Year to Date goal by **\$4837 or 22%**. There are three big insurance bills due at the end of March; and in order to pay these bills, we need to close this gap. **Attendance for the first eight weeks of 2010 is 24% lower than the first eight weeks of 2009.** (136 average in 2009 vs. 103 average in 2010)

**Your attendance in worship every Sunday is vital for the missions and ministries of Bem Church to continue!**

**ST. JOHN'S UCC, BEM- MARCH 2010 CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES- 10:00am; SUNDAY SCHOOL- 8:45am**

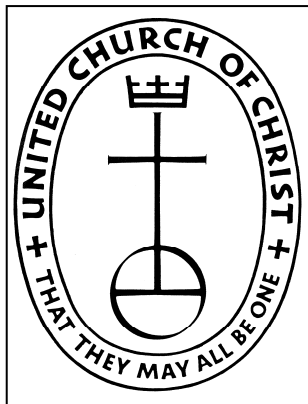
|           |  |                  |
|-----------|--|------------------|
| March 1-  | Cemetery Committee Meeting                           | 10:00am          |
|           | Choir Practice                                       | 6:00pm           |
| March 3-  | Ministerial Alliance Meeting at First Baptist Church | 10:30am          |
|           | Confirmation/Fellowship Meal/Lenten Worship          | 5:00/6:00/7:00pm |
| March 5-6 | Youth Group Lock- In                                 | 7:00pm-7:00am    |
| March 7-  | Communion  |                  |
|           | Pairs & Spares Carry In Meal                         | 11:15am          |
|           | Pastor Rick leading worship at Frene Valley          | 2:00pm           |
| March 9-  | Membership Care Committee                            | 2:00pm           |
|           | Lenten Bible Study: The Last Week of Jesus' Life     | 6:30pm           |
| March 10- | Confirmation/Fellowship Meal/Lenten Worship          | 5:00/6:00/7:00pm |
|           | Bem 4-H Meeting                                      | 7:00pm           |
| March 13- | Cemetery Clean Up Day                                |                  |
| March 14- | Youth Rally  | 5:00-7:00pm      |
| March 16- | Lenten Bible Study: The Last Week of Jesus' Life     | 6:30pm           |
| March 17- | Confirmation/Fellowship Meal/Lenten Worship          | 5:00/6:00/7:00pm |
| March 21- | Church Council Meeting & Council Carry In Meal       | 11:15am          |
| March 23- | Lenten Bible Study: The Last Week of Jesus' Life     | 6:30pm           |
| March 24- | Confirmation/Fellowship Meal/Lenten Worship          | 5:00/6:00/7:00pm |
| March 28- | Youth Group Fundraiser: Burgers and Fries Lunch      | 11:15am          |
| March 30- | Lenten Bible Study: The Last Week of Jesus' Life     | 6:30pm           |
| April 1-  | Maundy Thursday Worship                              | 7:00pm           |
| April 2-  | Ministerial Alliance Good Friday Service             | 12:00noon        |
|           | Good Friday Worship                                  | 7:00pm           |
| April 4-  | <i>Easter!</i> Worship Services                      | 7:00am/10:00am   |

**QUILTING EVERY TUESDAY 9:00AM-2:00PM: BRING SACK LUNCH**

**YOGA EVERY MONDAY: 6:00-7:30pm**

St. John's United Church of Christ  
1944 Bem Church Road  
Owensville, MO 65066

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