

## The Season of Lent



Lent is the forty-day period before Easter. In the Western Church (roughly speaking, the western Church consists of Protestants, Catholics, and Anglicans and the Eastern Church consists of the Eastern Orthodox churches, the Oriental Orthodox churches, and the eastern-rite churches affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church), Lent always begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for 40 days not including Sundays. We skip over Sundays when we count the days of Lent, because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection. This year Lent will begin on February 22 and end on April 7 which is the day before Easter. The color used to decorate churches during the season of Lent is purple, which is the royal color, to prepare for the King.



During Lent we are to reflect on the life we are living. We are to search our souls and seek repentance for our sins. When we observe Lent we imitate Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days.

Some people celebrate on the last day before Lent. This day has many names – Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Carnival, or Fasching). It is a kind of last fling before the solemn season of Lent. Since many people abstain from meat during Lent, Carnival is an appropriate name because it comes from the Latin words *carne vale* meaning “farewell to flesh”.

The word Lent does not appear in the Bible. The Teutonic word *Lent*, which we use to name the forty days preceding Easter, originally meant no more than the spring season – the time between winter and summer when the snow melts and the flowers bloom.

The church observance commemorating the 40 days of Jesus took place during the season of lent. Lent came to mean the observance rather than the season when the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity. The earliest use in the Christian context appears to be in the year 1020 but it has lasted and we have continued to call the church season Lent and use the word spring to denote the worldly season between winter and summer.

### Ash Wednesday Prayer Vigil and Holy Communion

Wed., Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

We will begin the Lenten season by opening our sanctuary on Ash Wednesday for a time of personal meditation, prayer, and Holy Communion. You may come any time between the above hours and spend some quiet time with the Lord. Feel free to bring your own devotional resources to use, or use those provided for you. As the Lord leads, you may also partake of Holy Communion, as you remember His sacrifice for you.



To give a child a CASA/GAL is to give them a Voice.

To give them a voice is to give them Hope and to give them hope is to give them the World.  
Make a difference in the life of an abused or neglected child. Become a Volunteer CASA/GAL today.

Call 329-5158 for more information.

Apply online - [www.vfcl.org](http://www.vfcl.org)

Spring 2012 Pre-Service Training Classes for New Volunteer Guardian ad Litems

March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2012

Please call 329-5158 to set up a Speaking Engagement to provide program information on how to become a volunteer.

# *Nurture & Care*

The Nurture & Care committee of this church is here to help and care for our congregation. This committee is your "First Call for Help". We are a group of people who are concerned with the welfare of our members. This commission leads us to offer "help" services where we can, and to keep track of other community services that may be available when the need is beyond what we can do. The co-chairpersons of this committee are Sherry Dangremond (440-522-1644) and Linda Knapp (440-667-7056).

**Are you facing a crisis? Is your loved one sick? Has someone close to you died? Do you need someone to listen? Or do you need help finding other community services that may be available?**



**3 SIMPLE RULES  
DO GOOD  
DO NO HARM  
STAY IN LOVE  
WITH GOD**

### Specific Help Available

For visitation, rides to the Doctor, assistance for shut-ins, or help finding other community services that may not be available through the church, call one of your Nurture & Care Chairpersons.

Lay counseling support call Ginnie Baillie, Lay Counseling Minister, at 440-365-7391.

If you need help with meals (short-term), call Sue Short at 440-365-8184..

For funeral dinners, call Alberta Haas at 440-365-5326.

If you are a widow, widower, or a senior citizen and you need help with tasks that are too much for you to handle on your own, then you need to contact the DOERS. Call Adam Baillie at 440-365-3200

### Who Should You Call?

First, call Pastor Don at 365-8734. If you cannot reach Pastor Don, then call one of your Nurture & Care Chairperson's.

For information or questions about church activities or if you can't reach the people listed above, call the church office at 440-365-7391. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. M, T, W, F.  
If the phone is not answered, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as we are back in the office.

### C.U.M.C. Prayer Chain

Call Alberta Haas (365-5326) or send an E-mail to Candi Thompson at [clthompson@eriecoast.com](mailto:clthompson@eriecoast.com).

### IN THE ARMED FORCES

Justin Berry	step-grandson of June Miller	Tom Murphy	son-in-law of Sandee Daggett
Doug Blaner	son of Bob & Carol Blaner	Daniel Quigle	grandson of Mary Hendershot
Jacob Brown	nephew of Cora Campbell	Eddie R. Rivera	friend of Becky Sklenar
Roy Cooper	son of Chuck & Pat Burkey	Ryan Schaffer	friend of the Leidenheimer's
Amanda Gray	daughter of Becky Sklenar	Matt Sharp	nephew of Sharon Moehle
Adam Mathews	grandson of Gerry Brown	Ben Sklenar	son of Becky Sklenar
James Morrison, Jr.	son of one of our Food Pantry patrons	Ché Stedman	nephew of the Doebele's
Jen Murphy	daughter of Sandee Daggett	Jesse Tubb	nephew of the Doebele's

### SHUT INS

Betty Burnworth, Jessie Carrick,  
Joanne Meschke, Evelyn Miller,  
Rev. Ronald Ober, William & Louise Rogers,  
Donna Roseborough, Dolores Turner

### ONGOING ILLNESS

Leonard Burch, Cora Campbell, Wreatha  
Goforth, Diane Harbst

## *Key Elements of our Faith*

Stripped of cultural additions, the core of Christianity includes beliefs about who Jesus was and what He has done. Christianity holds that Jesus was and is more than a man; He is God in human flesh. As the Second Person of the triune God, He became a man, born of a virgin. He lived a perfect life, taught us how to please God, died on a cross to take on himself the penalty for our sin against God, rose from the grave, appeared to hundreds of people, and then ascended to heaven. He did all this so that we might know God and live for him now and with Him forever.

## *Worship Committee Dinner & Show Event*

Beat the mid-winter blahs— come to the dinner/variety show/silent auction on Saturday, February 25th. The Worship Team is organizing this event to raise funds for our Special Events Fund, which was set up to help pay for big-ticket speakers or events. Seating for dinner will begin @4:45 p.m. We'll enjoy a spaghetti dinner, followed by the Silent Auction. We'll round out the evening with our Variety Show which will include music, readings, comedy, magic, and more.

Be thinking about any gift-giving occasions coming up—shop at the Silent Auction. If you want to help out in some way, please contact Mary Brown at 440-343-3443. Tickets are \$8.00 for 12+ - adults, \$5.00 for ages 3-12, and under 3 are free.

If you won't be able to make it to the event, please consider donating a new or like-new item for the auction. Cash donations will also be accepted.

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## *Moody Founders Week - February 6-10*

This year's theme is "The Hope Within Us" which features noted speakers such as Jill Briscoe, Frances Chan, Gene Getz, Erwin Lutzer, Raru Zacharias, and Paul Nyquist, Keith and Kristyn Getly, songwriters and recording artists of "In Christ Alone", plus Tim Stafford who will lead Worship.

For more information or to watch/listen to the video, go to [www.foundersweek.org](http://www.foundersweek.org). Our local Moody station is WCRF 103.3 FM.

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## *From the Food Pantry Crew*

The food pantry is not only available to those we serve on Fridays but also to All persons who attend our church. *If you are in need of assistance from the Food Pantry please call Linda Knapp at 440-667-7056 and she will arrange a time for you to come to the church and get food , preferably on Thursdays.* If Thursday is not a good time for you, other arrangements can be made. This arrangement is confidential . There is no paperwork to be completed.

Carol Radabaugh & Linda Knapp

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## *From the Library*

Happy February!

On February 2, we usually look for a sign that winter will be over in six more weeks (somewhat unlikely this year, since the snow got a late start). Ash Wednesday falls on February 22 this year, the beginning of the Lenten Season, culminating with Easter on April 8, 2012 (and hopefully some nice spring weather) -- now that's something to look forward to!!

As 2012 gets rolling, the Library Staff wants to thank both Mary Brown and Brenda Stoll for their recent donations to the library. We appreciate their thoughtful gifts that can now be enjoyed by our church family.

We have some newly purchased resources to tell you about, as well:

The Russian, series by Michael Phillips, 7 books which are historical fiction.

The Buzzards are Circling, but God's Not Finished with Me Yet, by Stan Toler

The Power of a Praying Woman, by Stormie O. Martian

A Marriage Carol, by chris Fabry and Gary Chapman

God has Never Failed Me, but He's Sure Scared Me to Death a Few Times, by Stan Toler

The Bone Box, by Bob Hostetler

During the winter months, the Community UMC Library will only be open on Sundays, before Sunday School until it's time for church at 10:45. Or, you can always stop by our display in the Narthex, as well. If you have a favorite author or you've heard about a book you'd like to read, just ask Rosemary Lare or Jane Miller for assistance.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Chris Wagers

## Worship Helpers for February

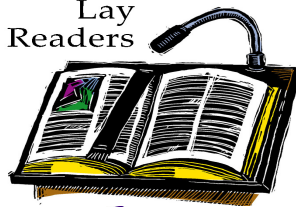
### USHERS



Head Usher - Kathy Gibbs

Ken & Aggie Hicks  
Ken & Carol Radabaugh

### Lay Readers



5th Carol Branting  
12th Dick Branting  
19th Linda Knapp  
26th Hugh Knapp



### Greeters

### Children's Moments

1st Dianne Mueller 2nd Pastor Lare  
3rd Linda Brunson 4th Becky Sklenar

Dick & Sue Downer  
Bob & Carol Blaner

## Children's Activities Helpers

Nursery 9:30 Pat Gregory & Helen Buckwald  
10:45 1st Sun. MaryLou Doebele, Holly Leidenheimer  
2nd Sun. Becky Sklenar, Nevada Hutkai  
3rd Sun. Holly Leidenheimer, Maria Hartwig  
4th Sun. Carol Blaner, Rosemary Lare  
Substitutes: Helen Buckwald, Pat Gregory

### Growing Up Church

1st Sun. Linda Brunson, Sue Short  
2nd Sun. Linda Brunson, Mavis Brown  
3rd Sun. Linda Brunson  
4th Sun. Bill & MaryLou Doebele

## Education Corner

Caroling was enjoyed by the whole church in December as a combined project of the Education and Worship committees. Thank you to all the caroling volunteers. Thank you to Pat Gregory and Helen Buckwald for taking charge of the refreshments for the caroling. Also thank you to the Education committee for providing the refreshments.

As I write this column we are well into our Winter Bible Studies. It's still not too late to join the men's group on Monday nights or the Ladies Tuesday morning or Thursday night studies.

For more information on the men's "Hosea" study, contact Adam Baillie. For more information on the Ladies "Patriarch" study, contact Linda Knapp (Tuesday study) or MaryLou Doebele (Thursday study). Classes will be cancelled when Elyria schools are closed for bad weather.

The American Heritage Series by David Barton got off to a good start on January 15th followed by the Chili Potluck supper. Everyone who has seen the series so far has really enjoyed it and learned a lot. Each week covers a different topic so you can attend anytime.

The class is also offered at Wesleyan Meadows on Thursday afternoon at 2:30 p.m.

Thank you to Sara Bennett and Linda Knapp for organizing this DVD series as well as the Chili Potluck. We had quite a variety of Chili's that were very tasty on a cold winter afternoon.

Finally, thank you for allowing me to serve as the Education chairperson at C.U.M.C. Due to my mom's death in December and now being the Executrix of her estate, I am unable to remain as chair of this committee. Please keep me in prayer for guidance, wisdom, and strength, as we sort through my mom's things and try to sell her house.

If you are interested in chairing the Education Committee, contact Pastor Don.

## Community U.M.C. Youth College Scholarship Fund

For many years we have had a Youth College Scholarship Fund but no one really knew anything about it so it has not been used. This past Fall, the Education committee was given the job of setting up some guidelines for this Scholarship. Guidelines for the Scholarship are in process and will be released after they are voted on in the next Administrative Council meeting.



# The Bulletin Board

## Happy Birthday!

2/2 Carol Branting  
 2/11 Josh Gibbs  
 2/13 Juanita Jones  
 2/14 Gary Dyer  
 2/15 Lily Jacklitch  
 2/19 Mary Brown  
 2/21 Dick Branting  
 2/22 Marge Dunn



## **Hot Meals and Food Pantry Needs**

**Hot Meals**  
 Bottled Ranch Dressing

**Food Pantry**  
 Canned Soup

## February Meetings

2/5	8:00 a.m.	UMM Breakfast Meeting
2/7	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting
2/17	1:00 p.m.	Caring Crafters
2/21	6:30 p.m.	Worship Team
2/28	7:00 p.m.	Education Commission

## Happy Anniversary

2/25 Ken & Ruth Spiegelberg

## 2012 Calendar Available in the Office

Please schedule your meetings and activities for 2012 now so that the information is there when I prepare the Bulletin's and Clarion's.  
 Sherry D.

## **A BIG "Thank You" – from the Lares**

We wanted to express our deepest thanks to you – the members and friends of CUMC – for the many ways you have reached out to us in Christ's love the past 6 weeks:

- ✦ Christmas cards and gifts given to us individually
  - ✦ the congregational gift given on Christmas Eve
- the Christmas basket of goodies from our UM Women, (and those who prepared them)!

Thank you also for your expressions of love and support before and after the home-going of Rosemary's mother:

- ✦ the many prayers, cards and words of encouragement
  - ✦ the beautiful planter given by our church family
- the lovely wreath given by several groups and individuals

And we thank you for your prayers on behalf of our daughter-in-law, Rebecca Lare, who is recovering well from brain surgery to remove a cavernoma.

And thank you for your prayers and encouragement throughout the year! We are indeed blessed to be part of this loving family!

May the Lord bless you and our church in the year to come!

Pastor Don & Rosemary

# FORGIVENESS Game

Try this twist on musical chairs.

**What you need:**

- 28 large index cards
- Black marker
- Two teams of people
- Radio or CD player

**What you do:**

1. On index cards, write out *forgiveness*, one letter per card. Make two sets (two F's, two O's, etc.).
2. Mix up the cards and form them face up in a circle on the floor. (You'll have six blanks mixed in.)
3. Have teams mix themselves up and stand in a circle around the cards. Ask an extra person to turn the music on and off.
4. As the music plays, teams walk around the circle. When the music stops, players each pick up the card nearest them.
5. Team members take their cards to a designated area and try to spell forgiveness. Any double letters or blanks go back to the "music person," who reorganizes remaining cards, spacing them evenly into a fresh circle.
6. Play continues until one team spells *forgiveness*.



## FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

•••• DIRECTIONS ••••

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.

gain	as	or	ear	van	an	for	give
gave	her	on	it	one	other	he	an a

B \_\_\_\_\_ w \_\_\_\_\_ h each  
 ot \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ give  
 \_\_\_\_\_ e an \_\_\_\_\_ if \_\_\_\_\_ y  
 of you h \_\_\_\_\_ grie \_\_\_\_\_ ce  
 a \_\_\_\_\_ st some \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 For \_\_\_\_\_ as t \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ d  
 for \_\_\_\_\_ you.”

COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Colossians 3:13, NIV

From 2/1/2012  
 it's only 166 days until VBS.

# Community United Methodist Church - February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 8:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>2</b> <u>Office Closed</u> 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>3</b> 11:30 a.m. Soul Café 12:00 p.m. Food Pantry Open 5:00 p.m. Hot Meals	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 8:00 a.m. UMM Breakfast Mtg. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. MeetGreet 10:45 a.m. Worship 3:30 p.m. American Heritage	<b>6</b> 9:30 a.m. First Place (at Harbst's) 7:00 p.m. Men's Study (at Baillie's)	<b>7</b> 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Trustees	<b>8</b> 8:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>9</b> <u>Office Closed</u> 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>10</b> 11:30 a.m. Soul Café 12:00 p.m. Food Pantry Open 5:00 p.m. Hot Meals	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. MeetGreet 10:45 a.m. Worship 12:30 Genesis Luncheon 3:30 p.m. American Heritage	<b>13</b> 9:30 a.m. First Place (at Harbst's) 7:00 p.m. Men's Study (at Baillie's)	<b>14</b> 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>15</b> 8:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>16</b> <u>Office Closed</u> 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>17</b> 11:30 a.m. Soul Cafe 12:00 p.m. Food Pantry Open 1:00 p.m. Caring Crafters 5:00 p.m. Hot Meals	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. MeetGreet 10:45 a.m. Worship 3:30 p.m. American Heritage	<b>20</b> 9:30 a.m. First Place (at Harbst's) 7:00 p.m. Men's Study (at Baillie's)	<b>21</b> 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Worship Comm.	<b>22</b> 8:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>23</b> <u>Office Closed</u> 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>24</b> 11:30 a.m. Soul Cafe 12:00 p.m. Food Pantry Open 5:00 p.m. Hot Meals	<b>25</b> Worship Team Dinner & Show Event
<b>26</b> 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. MeetGreet 10:45 a.m. Worship 3:30 p.m. American Heritage	<b>27</b> 9:30 a.m. First Place (at Harbst's) 7:00 p.m. Men's Study (at Baillie's)	<b>28</b> 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Education Comm.	<b>29</b> 8:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice			

## Avoid Conflicts - Schedule Early

The Community Clarion  
Community United Methodist Church  
680 Abbe Road, North  
Elyria, OH 44035

Return Service Requested

9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. –Morning Worship



## Community U.M.C.

Bible Based  
CHRIST  
Centered Ministry

Our Mission:

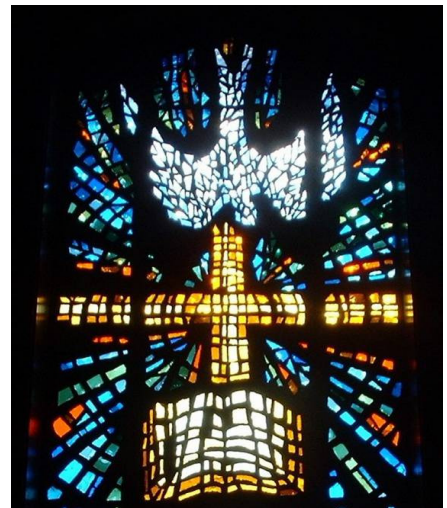
*To Glorify God by  
Equipping and Ministering to the Saints,  
Proclaiming Christ to the Lost,  
and Serving the Needy.*

680 Abbe Road, N. Elyria, OH 44035-3044  
Phone: 440-365-7391 Fax: 888-776-2342  
E-mail: cumc10@windstream.net

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Visit us on the Web at  
[www.elyriacumc.org](http://www.elyriacumc.org)

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### Weekly Missions

#### **Food Pantry**

Open every Friday  
from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### **Hot Meals**

Served for the community  
every Friday at 5:00 p.m.