

# CHRONICLER

Cape Girardeau, Missouri

www.evangelicalucc-cape.org

FEBRUARY 2008

## Lent for Protestants

Protestants have often been suspicious of Lent. When our churches split off from the Catholic Church during the Reformation, some argued that **Lent was a tradition “made by man, not by God”** and should be abandoned. However, other Reformers recommended that Lent continue to be observed as a reminder of the suffering and death of Jesus, but without the emphasis on fasting, which was an unnecessary burden, especially to those who lived by **physical labor. Martin Luther recommended, “Lent, Palm Sunday, and Holy Week shall be retained, not to force anyone to fast, but to preserve the Passion history and the Gospels appointed for that season.”**

Lent is not found in the Bible, but is one of the oldest traditions of the church. It appears to have originated as a time of preparation for Baptism, which was traditionally performed on Easter Eve or on Easter. The candidates spent the weeks prior to their Baptism praying, studying their catechism, and fasting. The entire church community typically joined the candidates in a 2-day fast on Good Friday and Easter Eve.

Over the centuries, the practice of fasting before Easter expanded into the 40-day season of Lent. 40 days is a very significant number in the Bible. For 40 days, Noah, his family, and the animals waited anxiously in the ark for the rain to stop. For 40 days, Moses stayed fasting on the holy mountain where God gave him the 10 commandments. The 40 days reminds us of the 40 days and 40 nights that Jesus fasted in the wilderness and the 40-day ministry of the risen Christ.

This season starts with Ash Wednesday, also called The Day of Ashes. On this day, the faithful have their foreheads marked with ashes in the shape of a cross. Originally, this mark was reserved for notorious sinners, but over the years, it was offered to

the entire congregation. This mark is a reminder of our identity as Christians, a people who belong to Jesus Christ, who died on a cross. This reminds us of how, in the Book of Revelation, Chapter 14, where **God’s people were identified by the mark upon their foreheads, “Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads.”**

This mark is made with ashes, traditionally **made by burning the palms from the prior year’s Palm Sunday. This reminds us that Jesus’ triumphal entry on Jerusalem on Palm Sunday led to the cross of Good Friday, where Jesus died for our sins. In the Bible, wearing sackcloth, pouring dust on one’s head, and sitting in ashes were a traditional mark of**

mourning and repentance. A terrifying example is that of Tamar, who after she was **raped, “Put ashes on her head and tore the ornamented robe she was wearing. She put her hands on her head and went away, weeping aloud as she went.” In Matthew 11, Jesus refers to the unrepentant cities, saying, “If the miracles that**

were performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have **repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.” The ashes also remind us our own mortality, which is why the pastor traditionally says, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return” when administering the ashes.**

In the early church, Lent was observed through very strict fasts, but this was modified over the years. Meals were limited to one a day and luxury foods—butter, sugar, and meat—were **“given up”** for the entire season or only on certain days, such as Fridays. The need to use up perishable food stuffs prior to Lent led to the pancakes of Shrove Tuesday and the Carnival—literally **“farewell to meat.”** Not



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surprisingly, those who do not fast for Lent still **tend to celebrate “Fat Tuesday.”**

Although Protestant traditions do not emphasize fasting as the primary focus of Ash Wednesday and Lent, fasting during this season is still appropriate when it helps us keep our minds on the meaning of the season. It is up to each believer to decide whether giving up a valued food for Lent or fasting on particular days such as Ash Wednesday or Good Friday is spiritually beneficial. Outwards signs of repentance need to be more than just a show. As the prophet Joel says, **“Rend your heart and not your garments.”** However, the practice of fasting can remind us that part of being a Christian is giving up some of the worldly things that we enjoy in exchange for something much better. The discomfort of fasting can be one way of reminding us of this. Another way is to increase your giving to the poor during

Lent, giving up some of your abundance to those in need. Lent reminds us that the blessings of Easter come at a cost. As Jesus says, in Matthew 16, **“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”**

Your Friend in Christ,  
Pastor Dan

*Bible quotations are from Today's New International Version (TNIV) © Copyright 2001, 2005 by International Bible Society, accessed via [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)*

## Lent Information

### *Purpose Drive Life Review*

Bring your book to the meal! Participation is optional. We will have two munching areas—one for the book study and one for fellowship.

### *Topics for Each Session:*

February 13

Week 1: What On Earth Am I Here For?  
(Introduction)

February 20

**Week 2: You Were Planned For God's Pleasure**  
(Worship)

February 27

**Week 3: You Were Formed For God's Family**  
(Fellowship)

March 5

Week 4: You Were Created To Become Like Christ  
(Discipleship)

March 12

Week 5: You Were Shaped For Serving God  
(Ministry)

March 20

Week 6: You Were Made For A Mission  
(Mission)

### *Make sure that you follow the Daily reading plan!*

February 6-12: Chapters 1-7

February 13-19: Chapters 8-14

February 20-26: Chapters 15-21

February 27-March 4: Chapters 22-28

March 5-11: Chapters 29-35

March 12-19: Chapters 36-40



## Evangelical United Church of Christ Mission Statement

A loving community in the Body of Christ; bound together by tradition and fellowship, growing in faith through the Gospel, dedicated to caring for one another, and committed to reaching out in mission.

## Spiritual Fellowship

### ASAP

It is time once again for the ASAP group to have their B-I-N-G-O — Spaghetti Dinner. So, put Sunday, February 17th on your calendar. The Spaghetti Dinner will be directly after church services. Please plan on staying for an afternoon full of fun and games, good fellowship and good food.



### Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle will meet Tuesday, February 12th at 7:00 PM for a Valentine Party. [Husbands are guests!] Drinks and the meat dish will be provided. Please bring a vegetable, salad or dessert dish to accompany our meal. The Entertainment Committee always provides **the fun! Come join us and “P-A-R-T-Y”.**

### Lent Schedule

*February 6—Ash Wednesday Service*  
Light Supper provided by Deacons at 5:30 PM  
Communion by intinction at 6:45 PM  
Offertory collection for FISH

*Wednesday Night Schedule*  
5:30 Light Lenten Meal  
6:45 Brief Evening Prayer—Offertory collection  
for One Great Hour of Sharing  
7:00 Open Gym

#### *Meal Schedule*

February 6—Deaconate  
February 13—ASAP Youth Group  
February 20—Friendship Circle  
February 27—Board of Christian Education  
March 5—Union of Concerned Christians  
March 12—Council  
March 20—Maundy Thursday—Potluck—  
Communion Service

#### *Other Events*

March 21—Good Friday Evening Prayer  
March 22—Easter Vigil

### Union of Concerned Christians

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| February 17           | Urge Members to attend ASAP Spaghetti Meal with B-I-N-G-O  |
| March 5               | Prepare and Serve Lenten Meal  |
| April 13              | UCC will help with the church Ham Supper   |
| April 20              | Dogwood-Azalea Tour at <b>Charleston, then “dutch treat”</b> dinner at Giant City Lodge, Makanda, IL   |
| May 18                | Work Day at the Church   |
| June 22               | Homemade Ice Cream Social, W with Brats & Hot Dogs at Cape County Park North, Shelter #4 [Huckstep Pavilion]<br>Gathering Time 4:00 PM<br>Pray & Eat 5:00—5:30 PM<br>We will need freezers of ice cream and or bring something to go with the meal.<br>ASAP invited to attend. |
| July                  | Vacation Time  |
| August                | Vacation Time  |
| September 25, 26 & 27 | APPLE BUTTER TIME<br>Lots of help will be needed, more details as time gets nearer.  |
| October 11            | Support & attend the Hay Ride at Marvin & Carolyn Best Farm  |
| November 16           | <b>Have an “Appreciation Dinner”</b><br>Fried Chicken, drink, etc will be furnished. Bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert to go with the chicken. Time to be announced later.  |
| December              | We will serve refreshments of cookies, punch and coffee after the Sunday School Christmas Program. Date = 14 or 21 to be announced later.  |

## Memorial Gifts



**With Deepest Sympathy**

### Memorial Fund

In Memory of Lillian Kies  
Calvin & Verla Sailer

In Memory of Vernon Auers  
Marvin & Carolyn Best, Jr.

In Memory of Wilbert Best  
Gary & Clodine Metje

In Memory of Walter Rungert  
Calvin & Verla Sailer

In Memory of Lorene Horrell  
Calvin & Verla Sailer

In Memory of Harold Stahlman  
Barbara Oberbeck

### Memorial General Fund

In Memory of Lillian Kies  
Louis Geldmacher

In Memory of Bill Seabaugh  
Tom & Linda Schild

In Memory for Wilbert Best  
Paul & Marilyn Propst  
S.G. & Grace Coy  
Louis Geldmacher

In Memory of Harold Stahlman  
Marvin & Verna Best, Sr.

### Salem Cemetery Fund

In Memory of Wilbert Best  
Bill & Sandra Brinkopf  
Leonard & Lillian Graden

## Council Financial Report

Beginning Check Book	Balance	\$24,400.95
Deposits	December	\$20,528.49
	Interest	\$ .55
Total Deposits for December		\$20,529.04
Distributions	December	\$8,660.77
Ending Check Book	Balance	\$36,269.36
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A.G. Edwards Account	{Memorial Fund}	
	Interest	\$36.40
Ending Balance	As of 12/31/07	\$11,266.65
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Check Book Balance	As of 1/15/08	\$37,634.48

## Jamaican Christian Medical Mission

JAMAICAN CHRISTIAN MEDICAL MISSION  
 in association with  
 EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 33 Ellis Street  
 Cape Girardeau, Mo 63703  
 573-335-5611

Our friends from Carron Hall, Jamaica and the Jamaican Christian Medical Mission team would like to thank you for your past support and let you know how important your gifts are to the area. Over 1500 patients were treated for various medical, dental, and eye problems during the 2007 Mission Trip to Jamaica. Carron Hall is one of the poorest areas in Jamaica. The average wage is 40 cents per hour. Needless to say, not many people can afford to see a doctor; and if they do, very few can afford any prescribed medications.

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 we will be hosting our Dinner-Dance-Auction at the Arena Building in Cape Girardeau to raise funds for the 2009 Mission Trip.

We are enclosing a donation form and ask for your support in the form of:

- 1.) Donate an item for the live or silent auction
- 2.) Buy an ad in the auction program book
- 3.) Become a sponsor at the following levels:  
 \$500 = Gold Sponsor      \$250 = Silver Sponsor      \$100 to \$249 = Bronze Sponsor

We plan on returning to Carron Hall, a rural farming village in the mountains of Jamaica, in April, 2009. The purpose of the mission is to provide a wide range of basic health services by integrating the specialties of medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, optometry, nursing, and respiratory therapy in a Christian outreach to the community which is severely lacking in basic medical care. It is the goal of our team to raise \$30,000. Any donation your organization can give will be greatly appreciated.

Donations are tax deductible. If you wish you may forward donations to the church address above with attention to the Jamaican Christian Medical Mission.

God has been with our group to lead and guide us every step of the way. We have watched God perform many miracles. Would you prayerfully consider joining our faith-based mission team in sharing your gifts with our friends in Carron Hall? Thank you for your consideration and time. Thank you in advance for your donation! Any questions or concerns please contact: Gwen Maloney 243-4307 or 275-1275.

OUR MOTTO  
***“You have not lived a perfect day unless you have done something for someone who will never be able to repay you.”***

*Author unknown*



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JAMAICAN CHRISTIAN MEDICAL MISSION
In association with
Evangelical United Church of Christ
33 South Ellis Street Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
573-335-5611
573-334-3454
573-334-3454 FAX

DINNER - DANCE - AUCTION
November 15, 2008 Arena Building

Please specify: ( ) Item for auction, ( ) Ad for Auction Program Book, ( ) Sponsor
Please PRINT ~ ~ a copy will be returned for your records.

THANK YOU!

Business or Individual \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_
City/State \_\_\_\_\_
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM FOR AUCTION

Item Donated \_\_\_\_\_
Estimated value of item \_\_\_\_\_
Please give a complete description of item, including any limitations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADS

Ad size:
( ) Full Page Ad (8" x 11") \$60
( ) Half Page Ad (5" x 8") \$40
( ) Fourth Page Ad (5" x 4") or (8" x 2 1/2") \$25
Paid by: ( )Cash ( )Check - Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Specifica-
tions: \_\_\_\_\_
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a Letterhead, Business Card, or Logo.
Please attach with a paper clip. DO NOT STAPLE.

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SPONSORSHIP

Please indicate level of sponsorship. Your name will appear in the Auction Program Book.
( ) \$500 = Gold Sponsor
( ) \$250 = Silver Sponsor

## Prayer List & Shut-Ins

### Prayer List

In case of hospitalization or surgery please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital be sure to tell them that you are affiliated with this congregation. \* indicates a new request.

*Please note: after six months names will be removed from the prayer list, unless an update is made to the church office.*

Leo Amelunke; 09-07  
Loyd Bollinger  
S.G. Coy  
James Dickison; 10-07  
**Michael "Benji" Doerhoff; 01-08**  
Ruby Doughty; 10-07  
Joan Hope; 10-07  
Mary Huckstep  
Frankie Hutson; 11-07  
Jaden, 1 & 1/2 yrs old—seizures; 12-07  
Ernest & Ida Mae Jordan  
Robert Juergens; 08-07  
Tabitha Martin; 12-07  
Frank Maevers, Sr.  
Kenny Mehrle  
Cheryl Olson; 01-08  
**[Mary Huckstep's granddaughter]**  
\*Helen Owens; 11-07  
Tonya Pobst; 09-07  
Paul Propst; 08-07  
\*Calvin Sailer; 01-08  
Kaylyn Sneathen; 08-07  
Susan Spinks; 01-08  
Wesley, Kailey &  
Kimberley Spinks; 01-08  
Andrea Truitt; 11-07  
LaDonna Wills; 09-07

### Shut-Ins

Ratliff Nursing Home  
717 N. Sprigg Street  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Polly Wilmsmeyer

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Fountainbleau Lodge  
2001 N. Kingshighway  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Alta Proffer

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Lutheran Home  
2825 Bloomfield Road  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

Dorothy Cole  
Frank Maevers, Sr.  
Leonard Moore  
Andora Peetz

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House Bound

Ruby Doughty  
711 South Pacific Street  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703-7836

Esther Nussbaum  
181 Gopher Lane  
Gordonville, MO 63701-9506

Helen Owens  
2237 West Cape Rock Drive  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-2857

**“With everlasting Love I will have compassion on you ...”**  
Isaiah 54 : 8

Evangelical United Church of Christ  
33 South Ellis Street  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63703-6201

Pastor Dan Johnson  
Church Phone: 573-335-5611  
Church e-mail: eucc-cape@sbcglobal.net  
Church Web Site: evangelicalucc-cape.org

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US Postage Paid  
Permit NO. 320  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63703-6201

ETC.



**Meal-a-Month  
for FISH**

Cold or Hot Cereal  
Canned Fruit Juice  
Corn Bread Mix  
Navy Beans  
Canned Soup, Chili or Stew  
Hot Chocolate  
Tea Bags  
Kool-Aide Packages

*Thank You!*

***50th ANNIVERSARY***

*The Children of  
Kenneth and Roxie Lindsay*

*Invite you to come celebrate*

*The Golden Anniversary*

*Of their parents*

*On Saturday afternoon*

*February 2, 2008*

*From 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

*At*

*Evangelical United Church of Christ*

*33 South Ellis Street*

*Cape Girardeau, MO*

*No Gifts Please*

*[casual pizza party]*