



## ***Monday Musings***

***February 15, 2010***

***Rose M. Blank***

***Conference Superintendent***

***Southeast District***

***319-986-2095***

Greetings,

This prayer from J. Philip Newell speaks to me of the light of Epiphany and the transition into the disciplines of Lent.

“In the morning light, O God, may I glimpse again your image deep within me – the threads of eternal glory – woven into the fabric of every man and woman. Again may I catch sight of the mystery of the human soul fashioned into your likeness – deeper than knowing – more enduring than time. And in glimpsing these threads of light amidst the weakness and distortion of my life – let me be recalled to the strength and beauty deep in my soul. Let me be recalled to the strength and beauty of your image in every living soul. (*Celtic Benediction* p. 62)

As we move through the remaining days of this Epiphany season, we are invited to hear the words the disciples heard at Jesus’ transfiguration: “This is my Son, the Chosen; listen to him!” As we make our way into the reflective experiences of the Lenten disciplines of confession and penance, these words center and ground us for the work of prayer, worship, study and service. We do the Lenten disciplines fresh from the transformative moments on the mountain – fresh from seeing the threads of eternal glory embodied in the Christ. We go now, back down the mountain, on a journey to Jerusalem. As we go, we remember the strength and beauty of God’s image deep within us. We go offering ourselves once again to Christ’s call in our lives. We go, searching and opening our hearts to Christ’s glory and power. And we go – because we have been transformed by the glimpses of glory, because we have been in the presence of the awe and wonder of the mystery of God in Christ.

My prayer for you is that this Lenten season will provide time for you to reflect on God’s goodness at work within you and on how Christ is calling you to deepen your relationship with him through intentional faith development and service in his name.

Grace and peace,

*Rose*

## *Upcoming Events*

**February 20, 2010** – Iowa Wesleyan College invites you to a special day of academics and athletics. You and your family have the opportunity to visit campus, talk with professors and coaches, and enjoy an afternoon of Iowa Wesleyan basketball. When you attend Tiger Spirit Day, you and your family will receive complimentary tickets to watch the Iowa Wesleyan Tigers battle the Waldorf College Warriors.

**February 26, 2010** – For the next “A Day Apart for Ministry Professionals”, our speakers will be Phil and Janet Jamieson whose topic will be “Ministry and Money”. It will be held at Washington United Methodist Church from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The cost of lunch is **\$7.00**. Please make your check payable to Washington UMC and send it to the church at 206 West Second Street, Washington, IA 52353-1925. Contact the district office **no later than** February 19 to let us know you are attending. For more information, contact the district office.

**March 7-9, 2010** – 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Ministry Conference, Nurturing Generosity, will be at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA. Register at [www.ruralministry.com](http://www.ruralministry.com)

**March 29, 2010** – The Van Buren County Cooperative Ministries will present a reenactment of the Last Supper at the Farmington United Methodist Church (part of the Two Rivers Parish) on Monday, March 29, 2010, at 7:30 PM. Contact: Pat Shaw, Coordinator, at 319-293-3899 or by e-mail at [patshaw@netins.net](mailto:patshaw@netins.net).

**April 11 and 15, 2010** -- “NESTING” Workshop/Writing Retreats

The first workshop will be held at The Soul of the Prairie on April 11 from 3-7pm. To reserve a place, please contact Dwight at [grosveno@evertek.net](mailto:grosveno@evertek.net). Cost: \$15 Bring a sack lunch. There will be an opportunity to walk a labyrinth. For more information about Soul of the Prairie, please visit [www.souloftheprairie.com](http://www.souloftheprairie.com).

The second workshop will be held at Bethany House in Fort Dodge, IA, on April 15 from 4-7pm. To register for this event, please contact Carol Joselyn at [cjj1024@frontiernet.net](mailto:cjj1024@frontiernet.net) Cost: Freewill offering. For more information about Bethany House, please visit [www.bethanyhousefd.org](http://www.bethanyhousefd.org)

**April 24, 2010** – The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Youth Rally Day will be held at Pictured Rocks Camp from 2:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the campground area rain or shine. Highlights include: Ultimate Frisbee Tournament, Live Youth Worship Bands, Free Food, Frisbee Golf Tournament, Bon Fire and Evening Worship. Contact the camp office at 319-465-4194 or by e-mail at [picturedrocks.camp@iaumc.org](mailto:picturedrocks.camp@iaumc.org) to register. To learn more about Pictured Rocks retreat options, summer camps and facilities, visit [www.picturedrocks.org](http://www.picturedrocks.org).

## *Announcements*

**United Methodist Student Merit Day Scholarships** are provided by the Iowa Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. Churches in the Iowa Conference are invited to make one nomination per church for this scholarship. Guidelines and an application (due by March 15, 2010) are available [here](#). United Methodist Student Merit Day Scholarships are funded each year through the United Methodist Student Day Offering on Sunday, November 28 in 2010. Other scholarship assistance is provided through [Iowa United Methodist Foundation Scholarships](#) and through the United Methodist Division on Ministry with Young People, United Methodist Board of Higher Education and United Methodist Higher Education Foundation. Scholarship criteria, amounts awarded and application deadlines vary. For more information or to download these applications go to [United Methodist Scholarships](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

***The following churches in our district have paid 100% of their apportionments for 2009:***

Ainsworth Community Church	Embury	New Sweden
Bethel	Finley Chapel	Oakville
Bettendorf, Asbury	Hedrick/Martinsburg	Peace
Birmingham	Kalona	Prairie View
Brighton United Church	Keokuk, Emmanuel	Richland
Burlington, Asbury	Keokuk, Melrose	Selma
Burlington, First	Keota United Church of Faith	Sigourney
Burlington, Grace	Keswick	Sperry
Burlington, Spring Grove	Kingston	Spring Run
Cantril	Lebanon	Thornburg
Center Chapel	Letts	Trenton
Conesville	Long Creek	Washington
Cottonwood	McCausland	Wayland, First
Davenport, Faith	Mediapolis	Webster
Davenport, St. John's	Milton, Grace	Wellman, Asbury
Delta	Montrose, Trinity	Wesley Chapel (Mt. Union)
Donnellson	Muscatine, Fellowship	West Chester
Douds, Christ	Muscatine, New Hope	What Cheer
	Muscatine, Spangler Chapel	Wilton

***Keep up the good work. We are proud of you.***

\*\*\*\*\*

Please consider making a donation for Haiti to the UMCOR International Disaster Response Advance #982450, memo line: Haiti. UMCOR will help us reach out to and

through our Methodist connections in Haiti. Your response will help UMCOR gauge its response.

You can also give online [at the UMCOR website](#). Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*

SE District Lay Speaking Training will be held on March 13 and March 27 at St. John United Methodist Church in Davenport. There will be a basic and an advanced course "You Can Lead in Worship" on those days from 9 AM to 3 PM. Registration will be from 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM. Cost is \$30.00.

On April 10 and April 24, we will offer a basic course and an advanced course on "From Your Heart to Theirs". Classes will be at First United Methodist Church in Mount Pleasant, IA, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM. Registration will be from 11:30 AM to 12:00 noon. Cost is \$30.00. Brochures were e-mailed to your pastor.

Fall Advanced classes are expected to be held at St. John UMC in Davenport. For information about fall classes, contact Carolee Stanley at 563-322-6860 or e-mail: [caroleestanley@msn.com](mailto:caroleestanley@msn.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

*Interpreter Magazine* – We have been notified by *Interpreter* magazine that 57 of our churches have not turned in their form to receive 5 free subscriptions to the magazine and 5 free digital copies. If you have not done so, we urge you to enroll today. You can enroll on-line at <http://www.umcom.org/subscriptions>, fax updated form to 615-742-5499 or mail the updated form to: *Interpreter*, P.O. Box 440229, Nashville, TN 37244-0229.

\*\*\*\*\*

Simple Living for Congregations: April 2010 Learning Event for Leaders”

Central District Field Outreach Minister, Martha DiSilvestro, and a team of Central Iowa ecumenical leaders have been working to bring high quality Alban Institute learning events to Central and South Central Iowa.

One part of that work has resulted in this series of events hosted by "The Center for Renewal" at Grandview College in Des Moines. Alban authors speak and engage in Q & A on contemporary topics for local church vitality. [Click here](#) for more information and an event brochure.

A second part of that work is "SPLASH", a 2-year continuing education immersion event for clergy and laity meeting for 6 overnight seminars covering a range of "Sacred Practices of Spiritual Leadership" in congregations. Twelve Alban authors are featured throughout. For more information about Splash: [www.sacredpracticeseries.org](http://www.sacredpracticeseries.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

The following churches have not yet turned in their **2010 Church Officer forms**. Please send the original to the Treasurer's office and a copy to the Southeast District Office as quickly as possible. This information is urgently needed. Here are the churches that have not sent in this information:

Douds, Lebanon and  
Selma  
Fort Madison, First  
Kalona  
Keokuk, Emmanuel

Center Chapel  
Letts and Island  
Muscatine, Moscow  
Muscatine, Peace  
New London

New Sweden  
SE Louisa County  
Parish  
West Chester  
West Liberty

### *Prayer Joys and Concerns*

Retired pastor, Dick Eis, is recovering from double knee surgery. He is doing well.

### *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

#### *March Birthdays*

3/05	Kim Bowles	3/17	Mike Orthel	3/26	Bruce Ursin
3/06	Jeff McPheron	3/21	Dave Barrett	3/29	Diane Abraham
3/12	Brian Sherman	3/25	Susan Ursin	3/29	Ann Tunnicliff

#### *March Anniversaries*

3/09 Mike and Jennifer Janes