



Hartsville United Methodist Church
224 River Street, Hartsville, TN 37074
615-374-2400 ♦ www.hartsvilleumc.org
**Methodist
Messenger**
February 2024

A Word from Pastor Tim:

Here is a little story I heard years ago that I just wanted to share with you. I hope it blesses you as well.

I'll never forget Easter 1946. I was 14, my little sister Ocy 12, and my older sister Darlene 16. We lived at home with our mother, and the four of us knew what it was like to do without many things. My dad had died five years before, leaving Mom with seven school kids to raise and no money. By 1946, my older sisters were married, and my brothers had left home. A month before Easter, the pastor of our church announced that a special Easter offering would be taken to help a poor family. He asked everyone to save and give sacrificially. When we got home, we talked about what we could do. We decided to buy 50 pounds of potatoes and live on them for a month. This would allow us to save \$20 of our grocery money for the offering. Then we thought that if we kept our electric lights turned out as much as possible and didn't listen to the radio, we'd save money on that month's electric bill. Darlene got as many house and yard cleaning jobs as possible, and both of us baby sat for everyone we could. For 15 cents, we could buy enough cotton loops to make three potholders to sell for \$1. We made \$20 on potholders.

That month was one of the best of our lives. Every day we counted the money to see how much we had saved. At night we'd sit in the dark and talk about how the poor family was going to enjoy having the money the church would give them. We had about 80 people in our church, so we figured that whatever amount of money we had to give, the offering would surely be 20 times that much. After all, every Sunday the Pastor had reminded everyone to save for the sacrificial offering. The day before Easter, Ocy and I walked to the grocery store and got the manager to give us three crisp \$20 bills and one \$10 bill for all our change. We ran all the way home to show Mom and Darlene. We had never had so much money before. That night we were so excited we could hardly sleep. We didn't care that we wouldn't have new clothes for Easter; we had \$70 for the sacrificial offering. We could hardly wait to get to church! On Sunday morning, rain was pouring. We didn't own an umbrella, and the church was over a mile from our home, but it didn't seem to matter how

wet we got. Darlene had cardboard in her shoes to fill the holes. The cardboard came apart, and her feet got wet, but we sat in church proudly, despite how we looked. I heard some teenagers talking about the Smith girls having on their old dresses. I looked at them in their new clothes, and I felt so rich.

When the sacrificial offering was taken, we were sitting on the second row from the front. Mom put in the \$10 bill, and each of us girls put in a \$20. As we walked home after church, we sang all the way. At lunch, Mom had a surprise for us. She had bought a dozen eggs, and we had boiled Easter eggs with our fried potatoes! Late that afternoon the minister drove up in his car. Mom went to the door, talked with him for a moment, and then came back with an envelope in her hand. We asked what it was, but she didn't say a word. She opened the envelope and out fell a bunch of money. There were three crisp \$20 bills, one \$10 bill, and seventeen \$1 bills. Mom put the money back in the envelope. We didn't talk, but instead, just sat and stared at the floor. We had gone from feeling like millionaires to feeling like poor white trash. We kids had had such a happy life that we felt sorry for anyone who didn't have our mom and dad for parents and a house full of brothers and sisters and other kids visiting constantly. We thought it was fun to share silverware and see whether we got the fork or the spoon that night. We had two knives which we passed around to whoever needed them. I knew we didn't have a lot of things that other people had, but I'd never thought we were poor. That Easter Day I found out we were poor. The minister had brought us the money for the poor family, so we must be poor.

I didn't like being poor. I looked at my dress and worn-out shoes and felt so ashamed that I didn't want to go back to church. Everyone there probably already knew we were poor! I thought about school. I was in the ninth grade and at the top of my class of over 100 students. I wondered if the kids at school knew we were poor. I decided I could quit school since I had finished the eighth grade. That was all the law required at that time. We sat in silence for a long time. Then it got dark, and we went to bed. All that week, we girls went to school and came home, and no one talked much. Finally on Saturday, Mom asked us what we wanted to do with the money. What did poor people do with money? We didn't know. We'd never known we were poor. We didn't want to go to church on Sunday, but Mom said we had to. Although it was a sunny day, we didn't talk on the way. Mom started to sing, but no one joined in and she only sang one verse. At church we had a missionary speaker. He talked about how churches in Africa made buildings out of sun-dried bricks, but they need money to buy roofs. He said \$100 would put a roof on a church. The minister said, "Can't we all sacrifice to help these poor people?"

We looked at each other and smiled for the first time in a week. Mom reached into her purse and pulled out the envelope. She passed it to Darlene. Darlene gave it to me, and I handed it to Ocy. Ocy put it in the offering plate. When the offering was counted, the minister

announced that it was a little over \$100. The missionary was excited. He hadn't expected such a large offering from our small church. He said, "You must have some rich people in this church." Suddenly it struck us! We had given \$87 of that "little over \$100." We were the rich family in the church! Hadn't the missionary said so? Deep down, I knew that we were actually a rich family.

by Eddie Ogan

NOW EVERYONE HAS AN ACTIVITY AVAILABLE DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME AT 10 AM. THE CHOICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Class	Ages	Leader	Location
Nursery	Newborn – 3yo	Gilda	Downstairs nursery
Youth Group	4yo- 5 th grade	Kathy R.	Youth Classroom
Brunch and Bibles	6 th -12 th grades	Kayla J.	Fellowship Hall
John Wesley Class	18yo and up	John O.	Upstairs Class rm

*Sunday School
For All Ages*

?UMW?

Have you considered being apart of the UMW? That stands for United Methodist Women. You don't have to be a member of this church or even consider yourself a Methodist. Chapel Hill Ladies, you are invited too! This is open to all women of all ages. This group raises money independent of the church to do wonderful impactful ministry. They meet monthly for discipleship, fellowship, and minstry and ...YOU ARE INVITED! The next meeting is February 19th at 6pm. For more info talk with Natalie Knudsen.

Community Worship Service

Have you enjoyed our community worship services? The next one will be February 17th at 5pm. St. John's Missionary Baptist Church will be here to lead our time together. At 6pm we will move downstairs for a fellowship meal together. Make plans to attend and invite a friend.

Ash Wednesday

This year Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day. Bring those you love to the sanctuary for the Imposition of the Ashes. Services will be at 5:30pm at Chapel Hill and 7pm at Hartsville.

Reconnect Team

You are invited to be apart of our Reconnect Team. Would you like to see people that was onced connected to this church find a place with us once again? Join us on February 8th at 6pm for our first meeting for more information.

Tacos & Tunes

Make sure you are here on Sunday February 25th. And stick around after service for a fun meal in the fellowship hall. We will serve tacos and sing together under Seth's guidance.

Community Bible Study

Our new bible study is well under way and we have had a great crowd joining. We meet each Tuesday evening at 6PM at the Goose Creek Coffee shop on River st. Please make plans to come join us.

Chapel Hill Breakfast

Join the folks at Chapel Hill on February 24th for breakfast from 7-10am. Delivery is avalible too! Just call (615) 735-1462. You must call by noon the day before to get delivery secured.

Handbell Choir

Would you be interested in being a part of a handbell choir? We would like to start a handbell choir this year. To do so we will need to help purchasing the handbells. If this is something you would find meaningful, please consider donating towards this project. But first we must make sure we have people wanting to participate. Is that you? Please talk to Seth and let him know of your interest.

Prayer List

The backbone of a church is prayer. Place this somewhere you will see it often. Then let every sighting be a reminder to pray for these. Please update the church on those on this list and others that need to be added.

Alice White	Curtis Butcher
Maxton Hawkins	Rosemary Denham
Alice Livingston	Joe Fergusson
Jim Hunt	Bert Gammons
Eddie Taylor	Beth Rolin
Micheal Oliver	Chris Conner
Amanda Garey	Ann Thurman
Tia Davis	Flo Dunavant
Helen & Don Voss	Jill Harper
Levi Owen	David Parker
Ashley Warwick	Wendy Finn
Scott Byrd	

Mission of the Month

The Hartsville Foodpack Program offers families with children in Trousdale County free groceries. The food is given away bi-weekly with families receiving a box of food for each child they have. They also are given free snacks and personal care items as available. School supplies are also provided each summer before school starts up. The majority of the families we serve are working and have trouble making ends meet. The food is purchased through Second Harvest Food Bank with the funding coming from multiple sources, such as individuals, service groups, and churches and a small grant from Second Harvest. The annual Car and Truck Show supports the program and provides about a fourth of needed funding.

The Chapel Hill Chronicle



Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

92 Beasley Bend Road in Riddleton, TN
Sunday Worship at 9 AM
Sunday School at 10:15 AM

“Common looking people are the best in the world: that is the reason the Lord makes so many of them.” ~Abraham Lincoln

BIRTHDAYS:

Vincent Johnson	February 4 th
Scott Hoff	February 8 th
Abraham Lincoln	February 12 th
George Washington	February 22 nd
Mrs. Florence Dunavant	February 27 th

ANNIVERSARY:

Ed & Linda Johnson February 13th
53 YEARS!!! 😊

FEBRUARY HOLIDAYS:

Groundhog Day	February 2 nd
Ash Wednesday	February 14 th
(Ash Wednesday Service, 5:30 PM, 2/14 @ CHUMC)	
Presidents Day	February 19 th

Annual Chapel Hill UMC Pancake Breakfast:
Saturday, February 24, 2024, 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Pick up or delivery. Proceeds will go to the Chapel Hill UMC Roof Fund. Please participate in this event, please give.

We love because He first loved us. ~John 4:19
This is the month for celebrating love in the spirit of Valentines Day which falls on Ash Wednesday, February 14th this year. Valentines Day has no basis in the Bible and its celebration is unacceptable to God as it has symbolism and practices He does not endorse.

However, there are Bible verses that can be used to celebrate love on Valentines Day.

Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. ~Psalm 37:4

So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed only like a few days to him because of his love for her. ~Genesis 29:20

To love Him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all the burnt offerings. ~Mark 12:33

Dear Friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone that loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ~John 4:7-8

Agape love is the love of and from God, a moral and lofty love that involves faithfulness, commitment, and willful delight.

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude; it does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong doing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. I Corinthians 13:4-8

I love God this Valentines Day and every day. He has given me the faithful, enduring and the all enveloping feeling of what it feels like to fall in Christian Agape love for another. He has also been with me in grief, giving me His presence, love, caring, strength and understanding of my loss. On both accounts leaving me with a peace that passes understanding. I am washed in His love and I will live with His love forever, because He wants me to smile. 😊 Your Valentine from CHUMC ~LH

“It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and Bible.” ~George Washington

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Help Center Mac & Cheese	29 Ushers Lentz Family	30	31	1	2 Church Office 10am-2pm	3
4 Communion Offering Backpack Program	5 Church Office 10am-2pm	6 Bible Study 6PM @ Goose Creek	7	8 Reconnect Team 6pm	9 Church Office 10am-2pm	10
11	12 Church Office 10am-2pm	13 Bible Study 6PM @ Goose Creek	14 Ash Wednesday Chapel Hill 5:30pm Hartsville 7pm Youth Gr. Restarts	15	16 Church Office 10am-2pm	17 Community Worship Service 5pm
18	19	20 Bible Study 6PM @ Goose Creek	21 Church Office 10am-2pm	22	23 Church Office 10am-2pm	24 Chapel Hill Breakfast Fundraiser 7-10am
25 Tacos and Tunes After service	26 Church Office 10am-2pm	27 Bible Study 6PM @ Goose Creek	28 Kid's Message 4th John Oliver 11th Kayla Jones 18th Kathy Atwood 25th Leah Brown	29 Reader 4th Morgan Robertson 11th Robbie Jones 18th Mason Rieger 25th Jonathan Brown	1 Flowers 4th Judy Lentz 11th Betty Gross 18th Kathy Dies 25th Leah Brown	3 Prayer Team 4th Betty Gross 11th Kathy Dies 18th Kathy Robertson 25th John Oliver

**Hartsville First United Methodist Church
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Recipe Corner

Chocolate Crockpot Candy
By Linda McDonald

Laying ingredients in a crockpot in this order:

3 lbs Almond bark or candy coating
12 oz Chocolate chips
32oz Lightly Salted Peanuts
1 Box Baker's German Chocolate (green box)

Turn crockpot on high and cover for 45 minutes.
Turn down to low and leave covered for 20 more minutes
Stir the mixture as best as you can.
Replace the lid and wait 20 more minutes.

Stir the mixture thoroughly. It should be completely melted and mixed. If so, spoon it out and drop on wax paper. If not, give it 20 more minutes. Allow it to cool for about an hour and enjoy.

FYI: Depending on the size of your spoon, this recipe will make about 90 of these. So plan on giving some away to neighbors.

Want to submit a recipe? Send it to Pastor Tim!