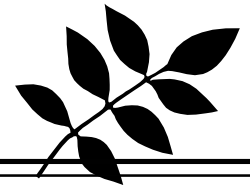


# The Hickory Leaf

March 2010



Hickory Bend United Methodist Church  
605 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37214  
Phone: 615-889-1360 / www.hickorybendumc.com  
Gary Brock, Pastor

## *A Pastoral Reflection*

For some reason that day my world seemed filled with more noise than usual --

- the noise of the phone;
- the noise of the music from our granddaughters' rooms;
- the noise of our neighbor's chainsaw cutting down an old pine tree not 20 feet from our patio.

Noise ... just normal, everyday noise ... at least in my world ... yet, noise that crowded and vied for attention in what I had hoped would be a time of quietness ...

Apparently even the Psalmist had days like this. "*I wish I had wings like a dove, so I could fly far away and be at peace ... I would quickly find shelter from howling winds and raging storms*" [Psalm 55:6-8].

But there is always noise ... vivid, and at times unpleasant, reminders that the world is a living, dynamic place. Noise! Noise! Noise! Today ... any day... every day ... Yet, if I listen carefully ... putting aside the irritation ... what can I really hear ... if I listen with my soul?

*"God thunders wondrously with his voice; he does great things that we cannot comprehend"*  
[Job 37:5]

The Divine Noise shouting for order out of chaos and calling it creation.

The Divine Noise guiding believers through dusk and darkness and all kinds of struggles.

The Divine Noise quieting the anxiety of living in a creation that seems to seek ever new ways of returning to chaos.

*"The Lord also thundered in the heavens and the Most High uttered his voice"*  
[Psalm 18:13].

Listen ... listen to and for that Holy and Abiding Noise ... the Holy and Divine Presence that is trying to be heard above and within our strident and self-centered noises ... noises that disturb, distract, disrupt, demand, reveal.

*"Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence"* [1Kings 19:11-12].

It was in that "*sheer silence*" – or, as another translation says, "*... a gentle whisper*" – that the voice of God was heard ... clearly heard while Elijah's soul was still troubled by all that had been happening to him; and on that day, all around him.

Shh! Be quiet! Be still! Listen! No, really listen! Because, on that day:

- the noise of the phone was a friend calling to check on my mom;
- the noise from our granddaughters' rooms was really a reminder of the very special gifts that God has blessed us with;
- the noise of the chainsaw was just my neighbor clearing away a place for his daughter's play house.

Just the normal, everyday noises of life ... blessed noises ... reminding those *who have ears to listen* "... *these are but the outer fringe of his works; how faint the whisper we hear of him!*" [Job 26:14].

So, that is why "*Our God says, 'Calm down, and learn that I am God!'*" [Psalm 46:10]

*Bro Gary*

## MARCH BIBLE STUDIES

*We will continue in our WEDNESDAY EVENING study of the "7 Deadly Sins." The Christian Church over time responded to these SINS with "The 7 CONTRARY VIRTUES – the specific opposites to the Deadly Sins:*

- *Humility* against pride
- *Kindness* against envy
- *Abstinence* against gluttony
- *Chastity* against lust
- *Patience* against anger
- *Liberality* against greed
- *Diligence* against sloth.

*It is to these we will turn in early March.*

*Our SUNDAY SCHOOL will continue its study of THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW.*

*Please note that these classes are open to all!*

*Bro Gary*

## OLE TIMERS Sunday School Class

The Ole Timers class is studying  
1 Samuel. All are invited to attend this  
class led by Ethel Burnett.

## HICKORY BEND UMYF AT DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

This year, at District Leadership Training, our youth met with other youth groups to learn and grow, and to meet new friends. We were invited to share the stories of our youth group, our mission trips, our mini missions, our potato bars, and our Sunday night meetings. Dr. Jack Radcliffe, the presenter before us, had spoken of all the things a youth group needs to flourish. Gabby whispered to me, "We have it made!" Of course, I had been thinking exactly the same thing. I looked across the room to Courtney, and I knew she agreed. Our youth had so many stories about the congregation at Hickory Bend. As I listened to the retelling of our experiences, I realized anew how much love we receive from our church family. I was overwhelmed with renewed gratitude for the steady, strong support of our congregation, and renewed pride in the many service projects we have completed.

As we concluded our presentation, I asked Dr. Ratcliffe to close our meeting. Dr. Jack looked down at the floor, looked at our youth, looked at the group, took a breath, shook his head, leaned forward, and said, "These are young people who are deeply loved by their congregation." Everyone in the group nodded in agreement. The girls were obviously delighted that others could understand the joy and pride they feel in their church.

I was surprised that this was so obvious to people who had never visited our church or met our congregation! We are so richly blessed to have the congregation we have!

Grace, Peace, Love, and Hope,  
Emalie

*Emalie went on in her article to write directly to the Youth about giving (stewardship) and being an inspiration and example for our younger children. She asked them to write notes stating whether or not they would pledge to give to the church on a regular basis and to give an example of the ways they might be able to earn their 'gift' to the church. They were also to include specifically what they are thankful for in their congregational life. These are their notes . . .*

Mrs. Shari, I am pledging to give weekly to the church. This is just a small payback to not only the church, for being my second home, but to the congregation as well, for supporting everything the youth has done. They support us with every move, every decision & every accident we make and I am thankful to be a part of such a caring, loving church family. I also hope to increase my giving each year I'm here!! (That could add up!)

Dear Hickory Bend, I've been attending this church for almost two years now and it has become home. There are so many aspects to this family that make it so special. From the moment you walk in the door and are immediately greeted by the Wonder Wall and the famous "Welcome to the House of the Lord", you know this is an amazing place. It is obvious that this church puts all the many talents, blessings and generosity together. Hickory Bend is a family and every member is an integral part to its success. When asked to write what I love about Hickory Bend I was unsure where to start because there are so many great things. It begins with the love, compassion and knowledge of our preacher and spreads to everyone in the church. I pledge to donate weekly to the church.

Mrs. Shari, I would like to start pledging weekly. I hope I can add more soon. I am earning my money by baby sitting. I am also very glad to say my church is Hickory Bend. We receive so much support from everyone at church. The church gives so much! I can't believe that someone would pay so much for a potato! Thank you everyone for sending us to Mountain T.O.P. and just for the love you give us. I also want to give a big thanks to Mitzi, Brother Gary, Courtney, and Emalie. Without them, I don't think we would get to do the things we do. THANK YOU HICKORY BEND!

Mrs. Shari, I would like to pledge on Sundays nights when I come for UMYF. I am thankful for the youth and for the support, love and courage that we get all the time.

Mrs. Shari, I would like to pledge to give weekly this year. I am very thankful for my church family! Especially Mitzi, Courtney, Bro. Gary & Emalie for all the hard work they put into our youth group. I would also like to thank you Mrs. Shari! You have always loved me for who I am. I'm glad to be a part of the Hickory Bend United Methodist Youth Fellowship! Thanks for everything!

\*\*\*\*\*

The HBUMC congregation is extremely proud of these young people. They are an inspiration to all!

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## Worship Meeting Notes

BY: Cathy Caldwell

The 2010 HBUMC Worship team met for the first time this year on February 3, and hit the road running!

We had an Ash Wednesday on February 17 with Communion and the Imposition of the Ashes. This was the beginning of the season of Lent, which also means there are only 40 days until Easter! The Worship team has begun planning for services for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. For a preview, check out the Easter Sunday schedule on page 4 of this newsletter.

Palm Sunday is March 28, so we need lots of children to process with palm branches!

The team is excited about our plans for Worship this year with special music from the band, the bell choir, small groups, and of course, the adult, youth and children's choirs. Computer based projected presentations, a few praise songs, and services held outside at the shelter are just a few of the plans the team is working on.

We are always open to suggestions and ideas from the congregation, so jot them down and hand them to a worship team member to be included on the next meeting agenda.

See you in church!



# WE NEED YOU!



## THE CHOIR NEEDS SINGERS!

**OUR GOAL THIS YEAR IS TO HAVE ALL OF THE CHOIR SEATS FILLED.**

**IF YOU ENJOY GOOD FELLOWSHIP, GREAT MUSIC AND HAVE THE TIME, PLEASE JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6.45PM**

### *MARCH SERMON SCHEDULE*

- March 7 "The Beginning of the beginning"  
Scripture: Matthew 14:34-36; 15:21-29
- March 14 "What's the weather report?"  
Scripture: Matthew 16:1-4, 13-24
- March 21 "Some important advice"  
Scripture: Matthew 18:1-14
- March 28 "We thought you said that ..."  
Scripture: Matthew 20:17-19; 21:1-11

### *PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY*



Mike Baker, Elizabeth Clingan, Barry Cloyd, Caleb England, Kenny England, Brian Ginnetti, Russell Lewis Jones, Mitch McDannald, Jeff McInturff, Amanda & Brad McMahan, Matthew Miesner, Joshua Mitchner, Jason Nevitt, David Parker, Joshua Snowbarger, Jess Summar, Zachery Taube, Bobby Woods.

### **Easter Remembrances**



This year, our Easter 'Remembrance' donations will be used for our Fisherman's Fund to help with our outreach ministry.

If you would like to make a contribution in memory and/or in honor of someone, please fill out the form that will be in our Sunday bulletins on March 7, 14 & 21. ***Please complete the form and place it in the offering plate along with your donation. Please use one of the offering envelopes you'll find in the holder on the back of each pew.***

This information will be compiled and on Easter Sunday, there will be an insert in your bulletin listing all the names of those you've chosen to remember with your donations.

### **A Need to Pray**

I knelt to pray when day was done,  
And prayed "O lord bless everyone  
Lift from saddened heart the pain,  
And let the sick be well again. "

And then I woke another day,  
And carelessly went upon my way.  
The whole day long I did not try  
To wipe a tear from any eye.

I did not try to share the load  
Of any brother on the road.  
I did not even go to see  
The sick one just next door to me.

Yet once again when day was done  
I prayed "O Lord bless everyone."  
But as I prayed, unto my ear  
There came a voice that whispered clear,

"Pause, hypocrite, before you pray,  
Whom have you tried to help today?  
God's sweetest blessings always go,  
By hands which serve Him here below."

And then I hid my face and cried,  
"Forgive me Lord, for I have lied.  
Let me but live another day,  
And I will live the way I pray. "

[Author Unknown]

### **Perky's Corner**

It certainly was good to have JOYCE and MARTY FORD back with us for the first time following their very serious auto accident. God's healing powers are certainly in evidence.

ELAINE MOON also expresses thanksgiving for God's blessings during her recent bout of pneumonia.

To all of HICKORY BEND for making this year's Valentine's Dinner a great success.

SAMANTHA PERKINS' TN HEAT Basketball Team placed third in the MTAC Year-End Tournament.

It was great to see GAIL PORTER back in the fold after her surgery.

Congrats to JANET HART, as it appears the tumor is gone! Now let's pray for a quick recovery – the Choir misses you!

Welcome RON SHARPE back to the choir for 55th time (just kidding).

Please submit any joys or celebrations to [mkperk@tds.net](mailto:mkperk@tds.net)

**FAITH**  
in **GOD**

**CHANGES**  
**EVERYTHING**



©GospelGifts



**Sunday nights  
5:30-7:00**

- Fellowship • Food
- Ridiculous activities
- Bible lessons • Worship • Music •

**If you play an instrument, bring it!  
(Don't bring your piano. You can  
play ours.)**

**Please join us!**

**Call Emalie for more information.  
615-403-8455**

## **Innkeeper Training at Andrew Price UMC**

Are you looking for a new career? Probably not. Are you looking for a new way to serve the least of these? Probably so.

Please join us for our last Room in the Inn for the season. Come and see what innkeepers do. We would love to have a cadre of innkeepers trained for Room in the Inn next year. Do you have a couple of hours to come visit and see what we do? Come to Andrew Price UMC any time after 5:30 Friday night, March 26. Bring your children or your friends. Bring anyone who would like to see what happens when you offer hospitality to those most precious to our Lord. You will be amazed. You might not find a new career, but the benefits are out of this world!

Call Judy or Emalie

## *Thank You*

Thank you all very much for your support, your prayers, for Elvis music, your food, and your offerings in Evelyn Reid's memory. The Youth will put the memorial gifts to good use.

The Reid, Whitson and Jones Families

## **Council Meeting Set**

Our next council meeting will be March 7, 2010, immediately after the worship service. Everyone is welcome. Please plan to stay and have lunch!

## **REMINDER.....**

### **EASTER MEAL FOR SUMMIT HOSPITAL - April 4, 2010**

We will again be taking food to the Summit Medical Center ICU nurses' stations and the family waiting room. If you'd like to contribute a dish, please sign up on the sheet posted at the back of the sanctuary. Please see Jeannie Gleaves (889-0250) if you have any questions.

## **A LOOK AHEAD.....**

Easter comes on April 4 this year. Our activities for that Sunday will be:

- Early Service - 7:30 AM in the woods
- Easter Breakfast - 8 AM
- Egg Hunt - 9 AM
- Sunday School - 10 AM
- Worship - 11AM
- Meal to Summit Hospital ICU

## **Easter Egg Hunt and Games**

Donations of individually wrapped candies and small toys are requested for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Egg Hunt will take place at 9 A.M. on Easter morning. All children and youth are encouraged to participate.

Donations may be given to Cindy Bilbrey.

## **HBUMC, did you know that during 2009.....**

- You participated in 16 outreach ministries that served over 550 people
- There were 75 participants in Vacation Bible School
- Average weekly attendance in Sunday School was 49
- Average weekly attendance at all worship services was 86
- Our total professing membership was 211 (125 women and 86 men)

## **Cherokee Legend**

Do you know the legend of the Cherokee Indian youth's rite of Passage?

His father takes him into the forest, blindfolds him and leaves him alone. He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of the morning sun shine through it. He cannot cry out for help to anyone. Once he survives the night, he is a MAN. He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each lad must come into manhood on his own.

The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beasts must surely be all around him. Maybe even some human might do him harm. The wind blew the grass and earth, and shook his stump, but he sat stoically, never removing the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man!

Finally, after a horrific night the sun appeared and he removed his blindfold. It was then that he discovered his father sitting on the stump next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.

We, too, are never alone. Even when we don't know it, God is watching over us, sitting on the stump beside us. When trouble comes, all we have to do is reach out to Him.

Just because you can't see God, doesn't mean He is not there. "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

## Warmth in Winter . . . especially . . .

BY: Emalie Egan

Oh, the weather outside was frightful! Could we “Go the Distance”? Going the Distance was the theme our youth renewal weekend. Originally that theme was supposed to reflect the Olympics. Going the distance became much more about the trip to Murfreesboro and home again. We made it to Murfreesboro, but would we find “finish line faith” or merely stroll around looking for entertainment?

We had discussed going to Warmth in Winter for years, but we had never been able to go. What a way to start! We received some partial scholarships from the conference, we registered six youth who could go, and two chaperons. What could go wrong? Well, only one thing went wrong — the weather. Beautiful snow fell all afternoon. By three o’clock, the snow was mixed with sleet and ice. With Brother Gary (Dr. Bro) worried about the roads, and kids worried that we would be stuck in Nashville, and my phone ringing every two minutes, Courtney and I decided to leave as soon as possible. We hit the road early. (Good idea, Courtney!) We learned later that almost 1000 kids couldn’t make it, and had to turn back! We joined the other hearty (or perhaps foolish) youth groups in Murfreesboro.

The trip to WiW was difficult. We passed so many cars and trucks in the ditches, but we took our time and made it slowly and carefully. We picked up kids in Hermitage and LaVergne, and slowly made our way toward Murfreesboro. The Trosters who live half way to Murfreesboro, had graciously offered to put us up for the night and make us breakfast. (We were assured that Mr. Ed was on board for this.) We realized fairly soon that even that trip was out of the question. One night in a hotel wasn’t going to break us, so . . . safety first. We were safe and warm at the hotel. Hang the expense, right? (We’ve got plenty of expense!)

We spent Friday night celebrating, praying, worshipping, praising, rejoicing, sharing, talking, and being “chased by God”. All of this continued Saturday. The music, preaching, crazy dances, sacred space, workshops, videos, sand pictures, and the warm fuzzies were all amazing. Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil challenged us to go the distance with the Author and Finisher of our faith. Our hearts, like John Wesley’s, were strangely warmed.

Everything was perfect, except the roads. We had to keep our rooms and stay another night in the hotel. What’s money? We can always raise more money, right? (I hope you all really like our potatoes.) Anyway we had a wonderful devotional time in our hotel room.

The worship service Sunday morning was poignant and moving. We sat on the floor, listened to music. We sang and prayed. We watched liturgical dancing and sacred hands, and heard stories of other youth on a mission. We served one another holy communion, and collected an offering for Haiti. We sat with almost 1000 other youth and youth workers, holding hands, praying for one another, for our congregation, for the lost and lonely, and for the people of Haiti. Our weekend had to draw to a close. It was hard to leave.

On the way home, the girls and Lane were telling Courtney and me what they enjoyed most about the weekend. We reflected on all the elements of the event that made our time so wonderful. We agreed that the event was more powerful than we had expected. We were amazed at the creativity and the joyful noise! Each one of our youth had special moments to recall.

...Especially Dr. Brenda!

...Especially the crazy dances!

...Especially the Sacred Space!

...Especially the sand pictures!

...Especially the band, Pocket Full of Rocks!

...Especially the Sacred Hands!

...Especially the parade of churches!

...Especially the workshops!

. . . on and on.

In other words . . . especially everything!

We are full of gratitude for Brad Fiscus, the design team including Ginger Rose, and the conference. Thank you, Hickory Bend for your support for the conference and for making this event even possible! We learned so much, made so many friends, and we found so much encouragement for our finish line faith! Thank you, Hickory Bend for cheering us on as we Go the Distance! We want to be faithful and true. We must, as Dr. Brenda reminds us, Finish!

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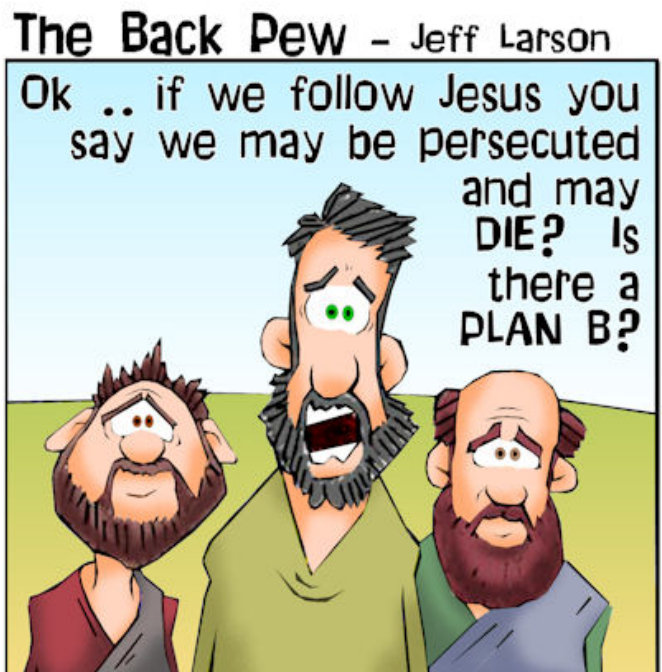
## THE PARABLE OF THE ONION

Once upon a time there was a peasant woman and a very wicked woman she was. And she died and did not leave a single good deed behind. The devils caught her and plunged her into the lake of fire. So her guardian angel stood and wondered what good deed of hers he could remember to tell to God; 'She once pulled up an onion in her garden,' said he, 'and gave it to a beggar woman.' And God answered: 'You take that onion then, hold it out to her in the lake, and let her take hold and be pulled out. And if you can pull her out of the lake, let her come to Paradise, but if the onion breaks, then the woman must stay where she is.'

The angel ran to the woman and held out the onion to her. 'Come,' said he, 'catch hold and I'll pull you out.' He began cautiously pulling her out. He had just pulled her right out, when the other sinners in the lake, seeing how she was being drawn out, began catching hold of her so as to be pulled out with her. But she was a very wicked woman and she began kicking them. 'I'm to be pulled out, not you. It's my onion, not yours.' As soon as she said that, the onion broke. And the woman fell into the lake and she is burning there to this day. So the angel wept and went away.

from, Dostoevsky, THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV

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Concerned with the perceived risk detailed in **Mt 24:9**, Roger, Tim, and Bobemeus pioneered the first WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM.



## RECIPE CORNER

### Golden Apricot Bars

2/3 C. dried apricots  
 1/2 C. soft butter  
 1/4 C. powdered sugar or granulated sugar  
 1 1/3 C. sifted flour  
 1/2 tsp. baking powder  
 1/4 tsp. salt  
 1 C. light brown sugar (packed)  
 2 eggs, well beaten  
 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla or brandy flavoring  
 1/2 C. chopped walnuts

Rinse apricots, cover with water, and boil 10 minutes. Drain, cool, and chop

Mix soft butter with sugar and 1 C. sifted flour. Pat into bottom of greased 8-inch square pan to form the bottom layer. Bake at 350 for 25 minutes.

Sift remaining 1/3 C. flour with baking powder and salt. Beat brown sugar slowly into eggs, beating well after each addition. Stir in sifted flour mixture, flavoring, walnuts, and chopped apricots. Spread over baked layer. Return to oven and bake 30 minutes more. Cool in pan and cut into squares.

Our thanks to Shari Adair for sharing this recipe from the Junior League Cookbook, New Orleans, Louisiana

## February 2010 Stewardship

| DATE    | ATTENDANCE | OFFERING  |
|---------|------------|---|
| 1/31/10 | Snow day   | Snow day  |
| 2/07/10 | 84         | \$3,826.81 General Fund<br>\$242 ed Night Meals<br>\$ 19.50 Hardship Fund<br>\$ 5.25 Youth Missions<br>\$ 50 Mexico Mudslide<br>\$413.30 Souper Bowl<br>UMYF Fundraiser |
| 2/14/10 | 71         | \$1,436.46 General Fund<br>\$ 122 Wed Night Meals<br>\$50 Choir Fund<br>\$1,011 Youth Missions  |
| 2/17/10 | 47         | Ash Wed Service   |
| 2/21/10 | 86         | \$2,168.63 General Fund<br>\$ 10 (Hardship Fund /Ash Wed Svc)<br>\$5 Lenten Extra Giving<br>\$1 Bldg Fund -New Entrance<br>\$31 Youth Missions                          |
| 2/28/10 | *          | *   |

\*will be reported in April issue of Hickory Leaf

## GOOD GRUB CAFE

### Good Grub Menus for March

Good Grub will serve the following menus in March unless market prices dictate otherwise.

March 3: Chili (mild and high test) and the fixin's (Fritos, Macaroni, Green Onions, Grated Cheese), Broccoli Coleslaw, Corn Bread, Banana Pudding

March 10: Ham Potato Bake, Green Beans Piquant, Apple-Carrot-Craisin Salad, Fresh-baked Rolls, Blackberry Cobbler

March 17: Smothered Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Fiesta Corn, Strawberry Pretzel Salad, Fresh-Baked Rolls, Dutch Apple Pie a la mode

March 24: Barbecued Ribs (sauced or dry rub), Jim Adair's Favorite Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Cornbread, Fresh-baked Rolls, Snicker Bars

March 31: Ham and White Beans, Coleslaw, Cornbread, Congealed Cranberry-Orange-Apple Salad, Raisin Oatmeal Cookies

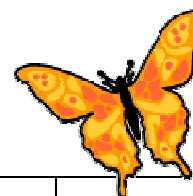
If you have favorite menu items you would like us to serve sometime, be sure to let us know. We'll try anything that market prices allow.

Remember that first-time customers get a reduced price (\$3), so bring your friends. All proceeds above the cost of food go to the new entrance building fund.

## MARCH WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

| DATE    | SCRIPTURE                     | READER            | CHILDREN'S SERMON | NURSERY VOLUNTEERS                    | COMMUNION STEWARDS |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 3/07/10 | Matthew 14:34-36;<br>15:21-29 | Lauren Rucker     | Cathy Caldwell    | Kelly Gibson<br>Meagan Troster        | Egan Families      |
| 3/14/10 | Matthew 16:1-4, 13-24         | Mitzi Anderson    | Bro. Gary         | Stephanie Buttrey<br>Mary Watson      |                    |
| 3/21/10 | Matthew 18:1-14               | Robbie Williamson | Emalie Egan       | Margaret Williamson<br>Elizabeth Egan |                    |
| 3/28/10 | Matthew 20:17-19;<br>21:1-11  | Jim Adair         | Mitzi Anderson    | Betty Whitaker<br>Victoria Egan       |                    |

# March 2010



| Sun   | Mon   | Tue   | Wed   | Thu                          | Fri  | Sat  |
|---|---|---|---|------------------------------|--|--|
|   | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b><br>(A) Ron & Barbara Walls                               | <b>3</b><br>Worship Comm Mtg 5p<br>Good Grub 5:30p<br>Bible Study 6p<br>Band Practice 6:15p<br>Choir 6:45p<br><br>(A) David & Liz Gurkin  | <b>4</b><br>(B) Bobby Kallon | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b><br>(B) Frances Thorne   |
| <b>7</b><br>ADMIN COUNCIL MTG<br><br>(B) Ron Phillips<br>Jack Bearden   | <b>8</b><br>(A) Richard & Mitzi Anderson<br>(B) Janet Hart<br>Gabriel Whitson | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b><br>TRUSTEE MTG 5:30P<br>Good Grub 5:30p<br>Bible Study 6p<br>Band Practice 6:15p<br>Choir 6:45p<br><br>(B) Kelly Gibson   | <b>11</b><br>(B) Alison Egan | <b>12</b><br>(B) Victoria Egan<br>Jonathan Graves<br>Ron Walls | <b>13</b><br>(B) Elaine Moon<br>Amanda Neil  |
| <b>14</b><br><br>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS<br><br>UMYF 5:30p | <b>15</b><br>(B) Faye Patterson<br>Lane Watson                                | <b>16</b><br>(B) Sissy Leech                                      | <b>17</b> <br>ST. PATRICK'S DAY<br><br>Good Grub 5:30p<br>Bible Study 6p<br>Band Practice 6:15p<br>Choir 6:45p | <b>18</b>                    | <b>19</b><br>(B) Russell Bearden                               | <b>20</b> <br>FIRST DAY OF SPRING |
| <b>21</b><br>UMYF 5:30p<br><br>(B) Barb Graves  | <b>22</b>   | <b>23</b><br>(B) Joanne Bearden<br>Chris Rucker<br>Albert Burnett | <b>24</b><br>Good Grub 5:30p<br>Bible Study 6p<br>Band Practice 6:15p<br>Choir 6:45p<br><br>(A) Leslie & Janice Ladd  | <b>25</b>                    | <b>26</b><br>(B) Brian Caldwell                                | <b>27</b><br>BLANKET BRIGADE 9a  |
| <b>28</b> <br>PALM SUNDAY<br>(B) Lauren Rucker                 | <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b><br>FIRST DAY OF PASSOVER<br><br>(B) Addyson Brown       | <b>31</b><br>Good Grub 5:30p<br>Bible Study 6p<br>Band Practice 6:15p<br>Choir 6:45p  |                              |  |  |

## BLANKET BRIGADE

BY: Gabby Troster

Our crafty ladies have been hard at work since the inception of the Blanket Brigade 2 years ago. Collectively the group has provided over 60 lap blankets to the patients at Alive Hospice.

While we work independently year around it is during the cold winter months when the lion's share of the work gets done. We have some in the group that do the majority of the work and it can become costly to provide all the supplies on top of their time involved in making the blanket.

For this reason I appealed to the congregation over a year ago for donations of yarn. As usual, Hickory Bend responded over and above the call of duty and we soon had boxes of yarn to work with. However, with the number of blankets produced the surplus has been used up, and in order to continue, each blanket maker will again have to assume her own cost.

So if you would like to be a part of this worthy cause but don't know how to crochet or knit you can help by donating yarn. It doesn't have to be newly purchased nor be a full skein. We've made some beautiful items with just scraps from several skeins. So clean out your closets and drawers. Or on your next trip to Walmart or Hobby Lobby you can pick up a couple of skeins.

If you are unsure of colors and would prefer us to pick the yarn, I would suggest purchasing a gift card from either of those stores and bring the card to me. That way when someone wants to purchase some yarn they can use the card and then pass it on to the next person without having to be exchanging money all the time.

If you are interested in helping just let me know. You can bring any donations to the church and leave them in the choir loft with my name on it. And if you want to learn to knit or crochet then join us the last Saturday morning of each month and one of us will get you started. Try it...you might find you like it!!

## Hickory Bend by the Numbers

BY: Emalie Egan

How often are people visiting our website? Well, here are our visits week by week.

| Week of . . | Number of visits |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1/23/10     | 84               |
| 1/30/10     | 65               |
| 2/07/10     | 70               |
| 2/14/10     | 92               |

What are people reading on our website? Here are the most active posts.

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| About (main page)                 |
| Leadership Training               |
| UMYF                              |
| Caroling One Last Time            |
| Almost Perfect Christmas Play     |
| Warmth in Winter . . . especially |

How did people find our website? These are the searches that brought people to our website.

|  |
|--|
| hickorybendumc.com,                    |
| united methodist newsletter for march, |
| hickory bend united methodist church,  |
| bend churches                          |

Visit our website! Add your own post! It's easy and you will be bringing people to our church!

**[hickorybendumc.com](http://hickorybendumc.com)**

## B.C.



**HICKORY BEND UMC**  
**605 Stewarts Ferry Pike**  
**Nashville, TN 37214**  
**Dr. Gary Brock, Pastor**  
**“Return Service Requested”**