

Committees at a Glance

January 24

6:00pm

Trustees Retreat, ULCC

January 25

3:30pm

UMW Executive Board
Adult Library

January 31

6:00pm

Finance Retreat, ULCC



The Marion Methodist

Issue No. 2

January 21, 2011

Big Idea:

FOR JANUARY:

Things on Our Mind

January 23 Future
Luke 17:20-37

January 30 Justice
Luke 18:1-8



A 6 week study by
Marion's United
Methodist Churches.
Sign up today or
call church office,
377-4856, for more
information

First United Methodist Church of Marion

12th Street & 8th Avenue

Sunday Worship –

7:45am

Early Worship – Chapel

8:30am

Spirited Traditional – Sanctuary

9:45am

Two Songs & A Sermon – Sanctuary
Church School for children and adults

11:00am

Blended Praise – Sanctuary

Tuesday Morning
Prayer Service –

7:00-7:30am

in the Chapel



PASTOR MIKE MORGAN

Phun Philanthropic Phebruary VIII

February cometh!

The prospect of cold days, high snow drifts and continually gray skies shortly becomes our 28 day reality, but be not dismal! For the 8th year, First United Methodist Church of Marion plans not to succumb to the doldrums of winter. Oh – it will be cold and some days the draft may even sneak into the pews, but it will not be dismal, the brutality of our outside conditions will not overcome the joy and fun we will experience inside.

For you that are new to FUMC, I introduce to you, and for those of you who are FUMC “longtimers,” I welcome you to our 8th installment of Phun Philanthropic Phebruary. Phun Philanthropic Phebruary is an opportunity to resist the dreariness of February by having fun in church while worshipping, serving God and his people.

Paul says in Philippians 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!” So we will. In our fall planning retreat, Nathan and I determined that we will do something in our journey through the gospel of Luke during Phun and Philanthropic that

is out of the ordinary on each of the phour (sorry I get caught up in it all) Sundays in February.

Elsewhere in this newsletter there is an explanation of the philanthropy, so here’s the PHUN stuff:

FEBRUARY 6, 2011 Super Bowl Sunday
The Pre-Game Show
Library Annual Souper Bowl Luncheon

FEBRUARY 13, 2011 Pawn Stars

FEBRUARY 20, 2011 Talk Show Sunday
(be ready with a question)

FEBRUARY 27, 2011 Camp Sunday
Camp Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
Re-Member Project Party at Christ
Community at 6 PM

Yea it’s goofy and yea it’s gimmicky it also should be good phun! We have a great time every year, so C’mon to church in February and lets have some PHUN in God’s house!

Peace, Love, Joy,
Rev. Mike

Phun Philanthropic Phebruary Missions

For years now we have used February as a time of fun in our sanctuary to help us get over all the cold going on the outside of the walls. This year is no different. We are going to be serving local ministries again by collecting items to be able to bless them.

February 6 - Soup for Mission of Hope

February 13 - Zip Lock Bags for FLY

February 20- TBA for Matthew 25

February 27- Knee Pads for Pictured Rocks

MONTH OF SUNDAYS Breakfast at FUMC

What do you do with a month that has five Sundays? Celebrate with the “Month of Sundays” breakfast at FUMC on the last Sunday.

The FUMC United Methodist Men (UMM) will be serving a fundraising breakfast in Fellowship Hall on the last Sunday of every month that has five Sundays. In 2011 the five Sunday months are January, May, July, and October. There will be a free-will offering with profits going to selected activities of FUMC.

January 30, 2011, Serving 8 til 11am, sausage, scrambled eggs*, french toast, juice, coffee and cinnamon sticky rolls. (*We’ll use a spatula and skillet for the eggs so they are fresh and hot for everyone.)

The free-will offering proceeds this month will be donated to Marion Senior Living. Have a sticky roll and support FUMC at the same time.

RE-ENERGIZE your spiritual life through prayer

We are a praying church. We are a church that knows God must be first in our lives and from Him all things flow. Have you been wondering how to strengthen your prayer life? Have you been thinking about your New Year resolution to enhance your spiritual life? If you are wondering about how to hold yourself more accountable through prayer, our Tuesday morning prayer team may be worth a second look.

Here’s the scoop — A small group of “pray-ers” get together on Tuesday morning at 7:00 AM in the chapel to pray for many, many, many things. We bring joys and praises, we bring concerns and worries. We pray for ourselves, we pray for our church, we pray for our community, we pray for each other and the list goes on and on. We spend about 20-30 minutes in prayer together. It is a FANTASTIC way to start the day!!!!

We are small but mighty. We are informal but strong. We are fun but committed. No experience required! No eloquent speaking necessary! Just bring a devoted heart desiring a conversation with God. Join us for a week, for a season, for a year.....

See you in the chapel.

Powerhouse

get connected

POWERING UP WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

Join us on Wednesday Nights for Faith, Fellowship, Friends, Food & FUN!

Powerhouse Family Meal Wednesday Evenings

JANUARY MENU:

January 26

Turkey, mashed potatoes,
corn & rolls

5:30 – 5:45 Lemonade & Fellowship

5:45 – 6:15 FUMC Family Meal

\$6.00 adults / \$3.00 kids

Family Maximum \$20

Hope to see EVERYONE there!



2 years - 5th Graders Sunday School at 9:45am

Preschool - Room 205

Kdg—5th grade 3rd floor

Wednesdays at FUMC Marion Youth

Jr. High 6-8pm
6-6:30pm Hang out/Games
6:30-7ish Music/ Story of God
7ish-8pm Life Group

High School 7-9pm
7-7:30pm Hang out/Games
7:30-8ish Music/Story of God
8ish-9pm Life Group

Youth Ski Trip!

Mark your calendars. The FUMC ski trip to Sundown Mountain in Dubuque will be on **Saturday, February 12**. We will leave around 1:15 and arrive home between 10:00 and 10:30. Please pick up a registration form from Pastor Nathan or in the church office. Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, February 2nd; don't be late. We need adult chaperones, so please contact Renee Cudworth at 373-1786 or danandreneec@msn.com if you can help out or have any questions.

Winter Games

February 5, 2011 7pm-7am

Stoney Point YWCA, Cedar Rapids
Drinks, swimming, basketball, worship with Sky Like Fire and inspiring message by Nathan Richardson
www.summertimegamesuniversity.org to find out more and register today.
\$30 pre-register, \$35 at the door

Birthday Open House

You are invited to attend an **Open House for Noma Lucas** as she celebrates her 80th birthday on **Sunday, January 23**, from 4-8:00pm, at the Lowe Arts and Environment Center, 4500 N Tenth Street in Marion.

Adult Education and Discipleship

There's room for you to join these classes. Contact Ron Noble at 350-3513, rnoble@fumcmarion.org.

Sunday Mornings at 9:45am

- *Classes began in January, you can still join us*
 - Experiencing the Words of Jesus, led by Greg and Becky Tallman in the Chapel. Cost (donation) \$16.
 - Power of a Praying Parent, led by Laura and Steve Hamilton in Room 105. Cost (donation) \$12.
 - Radical led by Paul Wagner in the Choir room. Cost (donation) \$12.
 - Faith Under Fire led by Ron Noble in Room 106.
- *Ongoing Classes*
 - Lectionary Bible Studies led by Peg Boss in the Adult Library.
 - Old Testament Studies led by Virginia Jensen in Room 104.

Sunday Afternoons at 1:00 pm

Managing our Finances God's Way. Doug Kirk leads this seven week, video based study in room 106. Cost (donation) \$20.

Witness the play

WITNESSES, a one man play. This exciting ecumenical event is sponsored by churches of the Marion Ministerial Association.

Mark your calendars now for this live performance of Witnesses by Pastor Jonathan Swenson, ELCA, Jan. 25, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in St. Joseph Catholic Church, Marion IA.

Over the course of 70 minutes, eight scriptural characters (a child-hood friend, the Gerasene Demoniac, Barnabas, and others) describe encounters with Jesus the Christ that changed their lives. Perhaps your life will be changed too. "It is riveting and haunting and touching and joyful," reported one high school sophomore who recently witnessed the performance. "I can't get Barnabas out of my head," quipped a 28 year old at a recent young adult gathering. Join us for this unique opportunity marking the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. A group discussion with the actor will be offered immediately after the play.

Bring a friend! Tickets at the door will be \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. All proceeds will go to Marion Cares or the Cedar Rapids Free Medical Clinic. Questions can be directed to Rodney at 377-4869.

Nashville Family Mission Trip



On May 1-2, 2010 the muddied waters of the Nashville's swollen Cumberland River and area creeks flooded neighborhoods and parts of the historic heart of Music City (including the Grand Ole Opry House) after a weekend of heavy thunder storms.

Thirteen inches of rain-fell over the weekend and resulted in nine people drowning, at least 2,000 homes destroyed or damaged by flooding, twenty-six hundred people left homeless and damages estimated at \$1.5 billion and climbing.

I believe FUMC Marion's response should be to go to Nashville and help the residents who are in need of your help. We are making this an opportunity to share with the whole family. Please pray about the opportunity to bring your family. Your volunteer team will stay at our Volunteer Center, 2620 Una Antioch Pike, Antioch TN 37013. This is a converted day care center with classrooms for sleeping, a lounge for fellowship, showers, bathroom facilities and a kitchen. Often of our projects will be within a ten mile radius of the Volunteer Center. We have at least 2 full sets of tools for all remodeling needs, but teams are encouraged to bring tools specific to their assigned tasks.

Estimated Cost- \$300 per person. Price includes travel to and from Nashville, breakfast and lunch, sleeping arrangements. If your family wants to make other arrangements by staying in a hotel, or traveling separately price will vary.

Please contact Pastor Nathan if you are planning on going. We will only be taking 15 people. We will be closing spots on January 31. A deposit of \$100 is needed before Jan. 31.

March 13-19 Linn Mar Spring Break March 20-26 Marion/Cedar Rapids Spring Break



Tired of the Same Old Spring Break? Would you rather do something different than sit at home playing video games or laying out on the beach soaking up the sun?

Come to Nashville with FUMC Marion.

1. There will be first class accommodations. (Would you like a top or bottom bunk?)
2. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided (As long as you wake up in time to make it.)
3. Free wi-fi (if you know the password.)
4. A great place to get a tan. (Especially if you are roofing a house.)
5. Meet new friends
6. Explore new places



4th Annual Soup-er Bowl Lunch Sunday, February 6

This is the main fundraiser for the Adult/Youth Library.

NO ENTRY FEE!!! The contest is open to all FUMC members and visitors. Please enter by emailing your name, phone number, email address to fumc.library@gmail.com, or phone the church office. Include the name of your soup and category (cream based, broth based, vegan, or chili) with your entry. (Entries must be received by Sunday, January 30, 2011 to be guaranteed a listing on the board. Later entries may not be listed on the board.)

Serving will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on February 6, 2011.

Anyone with questions may call Shelby at 389-5029 or 377-1077.

Happy Monday!

We know not everyone has email, so we will be including the printed version of our new "Happy Monday" emails in every issue of the Marion Methodist. We hope you will enjoy these inspirational messages on Friday or Saturday, too. If you are not receiving these by email, but would like to be added to our list, please notify Craig Liscum at craig@fumcmarion.org.

ReMember

We are United Methodists. We are a part of the people of God, but with our own flavor. We came to be because the Wesleys had a deep desire to make their faith real and powerful, through study, prayer, worship and service.

We are United Methodists. We are people who still have a deep desire to make our faith real. When we become members, we commit to practicing our faith through five promises: our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. When we live out these vows, we become a powerful force in our community. But just how well do we

understand these vows? How are we living them out in Marion and the Metro?

We are United Methodists. We are connected by these membership vows and by our desire for a real faith. Our connection in this room is strong; it's been forged through relationship and living our faith together. But how strong is our connection to the United Methodists who worship across town?

It is time for us to recommit to the promises we made to God and the church. It is time for us to remember what those promises are and in essence, to ReMember ourselves as

United Methodists. In this new year, we are going to connect with the United Methodists of Marion to study and live out our membership vows. Each session of this five week study will focus on one of the membership vows. It will begin the week of January 23rd, organized by time of the day and day of the week, but held in various places around the community and with United Methodists from all three congregations. It will end on February 27th with a celebration at Christ Community.

Please join us for this opportunity to deepen your faith.

- Jenny Colerick



UMM February 10

Sweetheart Dinner

6:30pm at American Legion,
31st Street



UMW January 26

Executive Board

3:30pm, Adult Library

Circles

Please send your 2011 circle information to norma@fumcmarion.org or drop off the form.

January 27

Sowers 9:15am, Room 104

February 2

Sarah 9:15am, LLCC

February 3

Rebekah 1:15pm, LLCC

Women's Friendship Group

Women's Friendship Group meets at 11:00am on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Pizza Ranch in Marion. Contact Idella Hogan, 377-1382, for more information.

Would You Like to Be a Sew and Sow??

Would you like to sow seeds of God's love all over the world? Tote bags are needed to be sewn to hold the school supplies collected in the fall to send to the Iowa UMC Thanksgiving Ingathering. The bags are precut and ready to be sewn. Directions are available and not complicated. Sew at home at your leisure, keep out of the snow and cold with a warm cup of coffee/cocoa at your side, and still have the joy of meeting a need of many grateful children worldwide. Contact Elaine Coppock, 826-1118, with questions or requests for the precut bags.

Thank Yous

Thank you to Vicki for your visits and to all for the calls, cards and visits during the two months of my stay at home for treatment of my leg and back. *God Bless you all, Olive Port*

Thank you to all who helped fill the two grocery carts with food and paper products each Sunday during 2010. The Marion Food Pantry was able to help 2,452 needy households (7,605) people. Thanks so much for your continued support - *Clarice Hinds, Marion Food Pantry*

Tax Preparation for Your 2010 Tax Returns at Methodist Church

John Slusher will be volunteering again to do tax returns. He will be doing tax returns in the Methodist Church office basement on Thursday and Saturday mornings starting February 3. John will also be doing tax returns at the library in Hiawatha on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons starting February 1. He is doing this volunteer service as an AARP tax volunteer. You don't have to be a senior citizen or a member of this church to obtain his help. The returns will be filed electronically for both the federal and state returns.

Harold Cramer and Dave Van Gorp are also AARP tax volunteers and again will be doing tax returns at the Methodist church office building on Mondays and Tuesdays. They start working on Monday, January 31. So there are 4 days during the week that you can get help for filing your tax returns at your church.

Please make your appointment by calling HACAP at phone number 211. Any of these three men can help you with your tax returns.

THE UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

Sweetheart Dinner February 10

Attention All Men: Valentine's Day is coming February 14. We all know that it is not a "requirement" to do something nice for your sweetie for Valentine's Day but we also know that things go a lot better if you do. For several years the United Methodist Men have hosted a Sweetheart Dinner at the American Legion Post 298 on 31st street. By coincidence this event occurs just days ahead of Valentine's Day again this year. I wonder if there is something "nice" you could do this year?

OK if you men haven't gotten the hint by now, I'll spell it out for you. **Buy two tickets now for the UMM Sweetheart Dinner held on Feb. 10** and your sweetie will think you are hot stuff. Sorry to be so blunt but it's hard for us men to pick up hints and we thought you might be like us. The tickets are \$15 each or \$30 a pair. So we don't overload you with decisions, you only have to make two of them. First, which dinners do you want? The choice is between a huge juicy pork chop or a combo dinner plate of chicken & ham. You have to make that decision when you pick up your tickets at FUMC. All the fixings come with the meal and then there is the huge dessert table. Tickets will be on sale in the hallway at FUMC between services. The second decision will be what to wear. My suggestion would be a nice pair of pants and something a little dressy, maybe a sweater or jacket. Better yet, you can ask your sweetie. The facts are that it will be February in Iowa and you will want to impress your sweetie. You go from there.

Target your arrival for 6:30 at American Legion Post 298 on 31st street just south of 7th Avenue (behind the lumber yard). After socializing for about a half hour we'll start the night. We're going to have a Master of Ceremonies and there will be quite a few door prizes given out also. Let us know if you will need baby-sitting services for little ones when you pick up your tickets. In the past, if its been needed, we have provided that at no cost, back at FUMC in the daycare area.

If you have anything that you think might make a good door prize, contact Tom Padley. Maybe a good book or a box of chocolates or maybe a pair of season tickets to a college football team near here. You choose.

OK, let's go over the plan one more time. Buy two tickets to the Sweetheart Dinner then put February 10 on the calendar as a Date Night. Trust us, you'll get points for this.

Visit our website at www.joyoflivingchurch.org

for information about the church, current activities, organizations, scripture and sermons and the Marion Methodist newsletter. Delayed broadcast of church services is available on Mediacom 18 at 7 PM on Monday. Full service recordings of services are in the FUMC library on VHS and DVD. Articles for the newsletter can be submitted by email to norma@fumcmarion.org.

Pantry Partners for Marion Food Pantry for 2011

We help folks in need by supplying items for the Marion Churches' Food Pantry. You may bring the following items to church any Sunday during each month. Please put your contribution in the grocery cart in the narthex or at the 8th Ave. door. THANK YOU!

January Peanut Butter

Altar Flowers

Honor a loved one or commemorate a special day in your family by placing flowers on the altar any Sunday. The 2011 flower chart is posted by the Chapel. **Cost is \$25.** Contact the church office, 377-4856, with details. Take the flowers home after the 11:00 service to enjoy.

Friendship Fund Distributions Christmas 2010

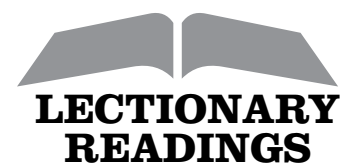
The offering taken last Christmas Eve 2009 for the Friendship Fund has been distributed during this year on your behalf to help many people in the church and the community provide for many of their basic needs in a meaningful and generous way. Your offerings have helped buy groceries, pay utility bills and rent, buy work clothing, purchase bus passes, provide a night's lodging, buy gas to get to work, and fill necessary prescriptions.

It is our FUMC tradition to not use the Friendship Fund as a savings account but rather to bless people and ministries we support. This year on Christmas Eve morning the Friendship Fund was spent down to less than one thousand dollars in expectation of the evening offering replenishing the fund to bless those needing a blessing in our community. Those blessings were:

- **\$500 each to:**
 - Two FUMC Families
- **\$750 each to:**
 - Linn Community Care
 - Marion Senior Living
 - FLY

This December, the Christmas Eve offerings for the Friendship Fund for 2010 totaled \$14, 810. Because of your generosity, we will be able to continue assisting the people of this church and community in 2011.

The pastors and leaders praise God for your generous giving to these people and these ministries!



LECTIONARY READINGS

January 23, 2011

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

January 30, 2011

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12



Our Congregation Shares Its Concern & Christian Love...

DEATHS: Jan 8, Donald (Bob) Nebraska, family members include his wife Alice, and son, Dennis (Corinne) Nebraska.

BIRTHS: Jan 12, Henley Louise Nelson, daughter of Ryan and Stacy Nelson. Grandparents are Wes & Beth Nelson and Jerry & Linda McEowen.

You're invited to join us at "Carnegie Corner" any Tuesday morning from 9:00-11:00am.

We play cards & games:
500, Bridge (some weeks)
Dominoes & Table Games

Coffee Refreshments Devotions

Contact Myrna Carter or Sherry Murray for more information.

Using the Computer to search for:

- Christian websites
- Hearing the Bible
- Reading Large print scriptures
- Finding & Playing hymns
- FUMC website
- How to use free clipart
- Making greeting cards
- And more!

While this group is geared toward our Senior Citizens, anyone is welcome to attend at anytime. We occasionally have potlucks and take short trips also.

The Marion Methodist deadline schedule

Deadline dates for the next issue of the Marion Methodist is on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26 by NOON**. This issue will cover from February 6-19, 2011. Emails are appreciated and can be sent to norma@fumcmarion.org

Church Information

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Marion, Iowa 52302
Office 377-4856 **Caring Corner**
377-8490

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This newsletter is made possible by the Grace of God and is intended to lift up the interests and Ministries of First United Methodist Church of Marion that are dedicated to His Wonderful Name.

THE MARION METHODIST (USPS 877-620) is published bi-weekly by FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1298 7th Ave., Marion, IA 52302-3405. Periodicals postage paid at Marion, IA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1298 7th Ave., Marion, IA 52302-3405.



LABEL HERE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JANUARY 23 7:45a Worship (Chapel) 8:30a Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45a Praise Team Practice (Carnegie - UL) 9:45a Worship-Two Songs & A Sermon (Sanctuary) 9:45a Church School for All Ages 11:00a Worship (Sanctuary) 1:00p Managing Our Finances God's Way (Room 106) 2:00p A Joyful Noise 2:00p Puppets (Black Light Room, Choir Room, Room 303/305) 4:00p Bell Canto 4:00p Girl Scouts (Room 303/305) 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - LL, Carnegie - UL) 6:00p Disciple Classes (Room 104, Room 107)	JANUARY 24 6:00p Trustees Retreat (Carnegie - UL) 7:00p Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall) 7:00p Labs Small Group (Room 105)	JANUARY 25 7:00a Prayer Service (Chapel) 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 1:30p Bible Study - Daniel (Room 105) 3:30p UMW Executive Board (Adult Library) 6:45p A Touch of Brass	JANUARY 26 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 5:30p Powerhouse Meal - Food, Faith & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 6:00p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p Bible Study (Room 106) 6:30p Pastor's Bible Study (Chapel) 7:00p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library) 9:10p 12th Grade Bible Study (Carnegie - Pastor's Office)	JANUARY 27 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 9:00a Sowers Circle (Room 104)	JANUARY 28 6:00a Men's Fraternity (Fellowship Hall)	JANUARY 29 2:00p Chrysalis (Carnegie - Conference, Fellowship Hall, Carnegie - Youth, Carnegie - Main Level, Carnegie - UL, Carnegie - LL)
JANUARY 30 7:45a Worship (Chapel) 8:30a Worship (Sanctuary) 9:45a Praise Team Practice (Carnegie - UL) 9:45a Church School for All Ages 9:45a Worship-Two Songs & A Sermon (Sanctuary) 11:00a Worship (Sanctuary) 1:00p Managing Our Finances God's Way (Room 106) 2:00p A Joyful Noise 2:00p Puppets (Black Light Room, Choir Room, Room 303/305) 4:00p Girl Scouts (Room 303/305) 4:00p Bell Canto 5:00p Friendship Ministry (Carnegie - LL & UL) 6:00p Disciple Classes (Room 104, Room 107)	JANUARY 31 8:00a Taxes (Carnegie - Youth) 6:00p Finance Retreat (Carnegie - UL) 7:00p Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)	FEBRUARY 1 7:00a Prayer Service (Chapel) 8:00a Taxes (Carnegie - Youth) 9:00a Carnegie Corner (Carnegie - LL) 1:30p Bible Study - Daniel (Room 105) 6:45p A Touch of Brass	FEBRUARY 2 8:00a Quilters (Room 104) 9:15a Sarah Circle (Carnegie - LL) 5:00p Adult Praise Team Practice (Sanctuary) 5:30p Powerhouse Meal - Food, Faith & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 6:00p Junior High Youth Group (Carnegie - Youth) 6:30p Bible Study (Room 106) 7:00p Senior High 8:00p AA Support Group (Adult Library) 9:10p 12th Grade Bible Study (Carnegie - Pastor's Office)	FEBRUARY 3 6:00a Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 8:00a Tax Preparation - John Slusher (Carnegie - LL) 9:00a TMC (Adult Library)	FEBRUARY 4 6:00a Men's Fraternity (Fellowship Hall)	FEBRUARY 5 8:00a Tax Preparation - John Slusher (Carnegie - LL) 10:00a Set-up for Souper Bowl (Fellowship Hall)