

# The Grapevine



## CAROL'S COMMENTS

Ash Wednesday will soon be upon us, and I am already wondering where I put the palm leaves from last year's Palm Sunday service. The Sheridan congregation observes Ash Wednesday with a short service held at 6:00 pm. Last year mixed in amongst the palm ashes was some ash taken from the burned-down church. It seemed fitting that the two should blend together as we began our Lenten Season.

This year I shall have to search more diligently for some ashes from the old building, for the site of the old church has been cleared, and soon, the new building will rise from those ashen remnants.

It is an excellent metaphor for our own observation of the Lenten season. It can be a time in which we strive to rise up out of the ashes of our fears, our doubts, our habits that keep us from living an empowered life. If we do nothing else in observing Lent than to stop in our tracks several times a day and say, "Thank you, God, for this day of life." And then follow that prayer with one act of kindness. Just think, if each one of us went out of our way and performed three totally unexpected acts of kindness each day, we would, in a small but marvelous way, be the hands of Christ in the world.

Let Lent be a time to examine our lives, and to prepare our hearts to receive God's great gift of the resurrected Christ.

Blessings to you,

Pastor Carol

## SHERIDAN NEWS FOR FEBRUARY 2010

We are collecting soup, stew, chili, etc. for Souper Bowl Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, to donate to West Valley Community Services (aka Grand Sheramina). They have a new name, but are delivering the same services to our community: food boxes, utility bill help and they also can refer you to other agencies in case they cannot meet your need.

United Methodist Women are off to a busy start. They sent out boxes to our service people in January, and are helping Faulconer-Chapman Parent/Teacher/Student group to make hygiene bags for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders at the school. They are gathering sample sized shampoo and conditioner and the little Kleenex packages to put in the bags. This is U.M.W.'s second year to help with this endeavor. They plan to put together 30 health kits, as requested by UMCOR, especially in need because of the earthquake in Haiti.

UMW meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday afternoon at 1 pm and welcomes any woman to come and help in this mission-oriented group.

The building plan approval awaits yet another step. As we have been hearing for many weeks, "next Wednesday the plans should be 'approved'". So we wait and pray that this is THE Wednesday that we have been waiting for. :-)

## WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

**MCCABE - 9:30 AM,**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45AM**  
**SHERIDAN - 9:30**  
**AMITY - 11:15 AM**  
**AA - AMITY UMC, TUESDAYS 7 PM**

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

### Amity

Feb. 2 - Cindy Walker  
 Feb. 6 William Hirons - Y  
 Feb. 9 - Donna Schulz  
 Feb. 13 - Lois Loos  
 Feb. 19 Ella McCain - Ch

### Sheridan

1<sup>st</sup> Becky Donicht  
 4<sup>th</sup> Elena Donicht  
 11<sup>th</sup> Linda Paterson  
 13<sup>th</sup> Ralph Rogers  
 16<sup>th</sup> Ruth Jones  
 17<sup>th</sup> Bobbie Schrag  
 20<sup>th</sup> Barbara Fry  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Janet Smith, Garry Lewis  
 26<sup>th</sup> Gertie Reid

## AMITY EVENTS

- Feb. 7 - Communion Sunday
- Feb. 11 - Amity Admin. Council, 7:00 pm.
- Feb. 12 - Amity Prayer Breakfast
- Feb. 14 - Amity Youth Event @ Christ's Church, Monmouth, 3:00 -5:00 pm.
- Feb. 16 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Feed @ Amity - 6:00pm
- Feb. 28 - Amity Youth Event @ Dallas UMC, 3:00-5:00 pm.

**PLEASE CALL THE PASTOR AT HOME TO LEAVE A MESSAGE:**

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