

# The Messenger

PLEASANT GROVE  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

## Resurrection Biscuits

The first Sunday of April this year is *Easter Sunday*, the day of the Christian year in which we explicitly rejoice in resurrection—both that of Christ and ours— and extend its possibilities into our daily walk with Christ. Easter and spring seem to go hand in hand. New life is blooming everywhere. And as the world is budding and blooming, it would seem appropriate that new faith must shoot up in our hearts.

Susan Sparks tells the story of her grandmother’s biscuits that seems to illustrate our need. Susan said that her Granny could fix anything and it would taste great – except her biscuits. She described her granny’s biscuits as looking like over-sized hockey pucks and being so hard that if they were to ever hit the floor the sound of them would wake the dead. In fact one of Susan’s uncles referred to his momma’s biscuits as “Resurrection Biscuits” because of that conjecture about them. The biscuits lack backing soda. That is why they baked out flat and not fluffy, hard and not flakey. The biscuits suffered because they lacked something.

Our faith doesn’t flower in the presence of divine promises because it lacks something. I think what it lacks is a focus on the life –giving power of Jesus. Jesus is the *Over-comer* (John 16:33). He is the one who specializes in giving us a superior quality of life as opposed to what the world can give (John 10:10& 14:26). When we turn our attention and our trust to Jesus we can walk on water and move mountains in our walk with God (Matthew 14:22-29 & 17:20). I have often wondered why Easter doesn’t move the people of God in our time like other movements of spring time do - March Madness, fishing and flowers for example- now I think I know- their biscuits are flat! The faith lacks something. Makes sense doesn’t it?

During this Easter season look for lacking ingredients as you admire the renewal of life that is God’s spectacular handiwork. Are your biscuits flat? Bake a new batch during Easter season.

Love,  
Brother Joe

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## March Madness

Last month, Pleasant Grove was busy. In addition to the committee meetings, appreciation dinners, volleyball games, and UK basketball games, we also hosted a luncheon at Lakeland Wesley Village and spread a little Easter cheer at the local detention center.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped Ricky feed the Lakeland Wesley Village residents. Fellowship was enjoyed by everyone, we had plenty to feed everyone, and we raised money to benefit the fund at Lakeland Wesley used to help to provide food and cleaning services for residents who are suffering from sickness.

Also, through the joint efforts of the UMW, the children and youth, and the volunteers who helped the Outreach Committee deliver Saturday, April 3rd, Pleasant Grove was able to deliver 30 Easter baskets to the children of the inmates in our local detention center. This act of love is a blessing to both children and their parents who aren’t always in a position to provide an Easter treat for their children. Thanks to all who mad this outreach possible.

## Your Chance to Join the WIMPS in Flexing Their Spiritual Muscles

Wed. Apr. 14th / 6 pm / WIMPS~

A new study will begin based on the book A WOMAN'S WALK WITH GOD by Elizabeth George. It is about God's Spirit guiding our attitudes, actions; about enhancing our lives through following Jesus with faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Weekly meetings are for fellowship and study covering discussion of one chapter at a time.

Books can be ordered for about \$11. (see Dianne Green). Ladies are always welcome. WIMPS stands for Women In Meaningful Praise & Study. Meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday at 6 pm at the same time as the Wednesday evening programs for children.



## Upcoming Events

Thursday, April 1st—UMW Meeting at 11:00 in Fellowship Hall of Pleasant Grove

Saturday, April 3rd—Pleasant Grove Easter Egg Hunt at 2:00 p.m. **AND** Witness Committee sponsoring the delivery of Easter Baskets to the children of inmates at the local detention center

Saturday, April 3rd—Easter Egg Hunt at Pleasant Grove 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 7th—W.I.M.P.S and Children/Youth are not meeting due to spring break

Friday, April 9th—5:30-8:00 p.m. BBQ Dinner and Marshall County Has Talent at Pleasant Grove (\$10.00 per ticket/ children 5 and older \$5.00)

Sunday, April 11th —Children (5th grade and younger) to Lakewood Gymnastics from 2:00-4:00. Pleasant Grove Van will leave at 1:20.

Saturday, April 17th—Pleasant Grove 5K Run/Walk

Sunday, April 18th—F.R.O.G. Young Adult Sunday School Class serving Italian Dinner after morning service

Friday, April 9th—Pleasant Grove BBQ Dinner/Marshall County Has Talent \$10.00 per ticket (children 5 and older \$5.00)

WIMPS meet **each Wednesday evening at 6:00**

The children and youth meet on **Wednesday nights at 6:00.**

Choir practices **each Sunday evening at 5:00 (excluding Easter Sunday evening)**

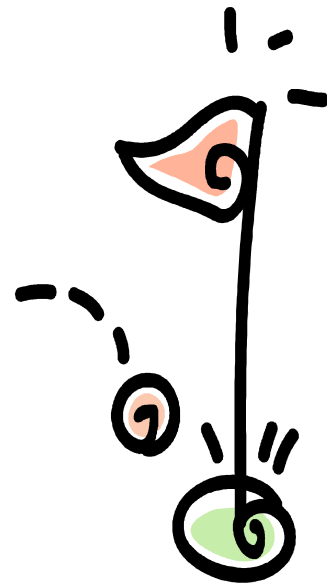
## United Methodist Men Spring Golf Scramble

Brownsville Country Club  
Brownsville, TN

Saturday, May 1, 2010

This is a four man scramble to raise money to support the programs of the Memphis Conference United Methodist Men.

**If anyone is interested, please see Michael Taylor before April 19, 2010.**



## Bags of Love

BAGS OF LOVE is a ministry, not only to the children of our community but also to every person who responds to our outreach. We have seen God work in amazing ways as He provides many blessings through our efforts. He will bless the children who receive the BAGS OF LOVE, the social workers who hand them out, and the citizens of our community as they give of their time, possessions, money and talents to help with this ministry. Then He will bless you as you watch Him at work! For that reason, we receive every donation and every offer to help with a heart of gratitude.

We invite you to join our team of volunteers and utilize your God-given talents. Though you may need to be flexible at times, we are confident you can find an area of responsibility you are comfortable serving in and let us know how you want to help.

- \*Sewing quilts and bags
- \*Fill bags with age appropriate items
- \*Deliver bags
- \*Contact the community via church bulletins, mailings, phone calls, presentations to civic organizations and other groups
- \*Request, pick up, organize and inventory donations
- \*Organize fundraisers

*Children who are taken from their homes, often in the middle of the night, may have to leave with nothing—these bags give them a little something of their own during this very rough time.*

See Margret Henley to volunteer your services. (margret.henley@att.net)



## Upcoming Children and Youth Activities

### Wednesday, June 23

Youth to Tracis for Pool Party

### Saturday, June 26-27

Mom & Me camp at Lakeshore

Ages 5 - 9... If you are interested please talk to Traci or Kim as we will try to send in the registrations together

### Sunday, July 11 (2:00-4:00)

Methodist Youth Horseback Riding

### Wednesday, July 14

Youth to Venture River

### Saturday, July 24

Vacation Bible School

### Sunday, July 25

Methodist Youth to Mr. Gatti's (2:00-4:00)

PG Ice Cream Social (open to all church) 6:00

### Saturday, August 14

Methodist Youth to Venture River

Watch the bulletin and newsletter for other events, and don't forget the Wednesday night Children and Youth Program at 6:00 until the end of May.

### Sunday, April 11 (2:00-4:00)

Methodist Youth to Lakewood Gymnastics

### Saturday, April 17

PG 5K Run

### Sunday, May 2 (2:00-4:00)

Methodist Youth Picnic at Mike Miller

### Friday, May 28

Deadline for Holiday World Tickets (on June 15)

*The youth will **NOT** be meeting during the months of June and July other than our activities*

### Saturday, June 5

PG Church Picnic

### Wednesday, June 9

PG Youth to Maggies Jungle Golf

### Tuesday, June 15

PG to Holiday World

Leave from church around 7am

This will be open to all the church. (Church will cover the cost of children.)

## Recipes We've Enjoyed This Past Month

### Gingered Carrot Cake with Lemon Cream Cheese Frosting

- 1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
- 2 cups sugar
- 4 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 3 cups grated carrot

#### Lemon Cream Cheese Frosting

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 (8 oz) package cream cheese softened
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 6 cups powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray 3 (9 inch) round cake pans with nonstick baking spray and flour.

In a large bowl, combine oil, sugar, and eggs; beat at medium-high speed with an electric mixer until creamy. Add lemon zest, beating until combined.

In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking powder, ginger, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Gradually add to oil mixture, beating until combined. Stir in grated carrot.

Spoon batter evenly into prepared pans, and bake for 18 to 22 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Let cool in pans for 10 minutes. Remove from pan and cool completely.

Spread lemon Cream Cheese Frosting evenly between layers and on top and sides of cake. Garnish with nuts if desired.

#### Lemon Cream Cheese Frosting

In a large bowl, beat butter, cream cheese, lemon zest, and lemon juice until creamy. Gradually add sugar beating until smooth

*Several ladies and Mark enjoyed this cake at the appreciation dinner for our Children's Church workers.*

### Grandma Miller's Chicken

- chicken
- mayonnaise
- seasoned salt
- parsley
- garlic
- paprika

Clean chicken and put in a lightly greased baking dish. Sprinkle with seasoned salt. Spread generous portion of mayonnaise over each chicken breast. Sprinkle with parsley, garlic, and paprika. Bake at 350 for 75 minutes

*This is Kim Phillip's recipe, and Ricky used in preparing the luncheon for the Lakeland Wesley Village Luncheon. It's so easy and tasty!*



Delivered with a smile! Pleasant Grove handed out over 25 Easter Baskets to children of inmates at the local detention center this year.

Pleasant Grove UMC  
 16 Wadesboro Road  
 Benton, Kentucky 42025

## April Birthdays

6th Kalynn Smothers	22nd Darlene Miller
8th Rodney Mellies	26th Jackie Mullins
10th Brady Morgan	27th Gary Fields
14th Heather Fiessinger	28th Mary E. Morgan, Patty Gallo- way, and Gary Taylor
15th Jason Darnall	30th Charles Callahan
17th Randy Wood	
19th Dianne Green	
20th Jarrod Segro	
21st Phyllis Wood, Greg Adams	

## Beth Moore Simulcast

Event: Beth Moore Simulcast  
 What: Workshop  
 Start Time: Saturday, April 24 at 8:00am  
 End Time: Saturday, April 24 at 4:00pm  
 Where: Benton First UMC

Cost is \$28.00 and this includes lunch and goodies throughout the day

Contact Benton First UMC if you plan to attend  
[bentonmc@bellsouth.net](mailto:bentonmc@bellsouth.net)



Our Abby Morris was one of only two youth from our UM Youth in Marshall County to get up at 5:00 a.m. and volunteer her services at the Maple Springs Country Breakfast. Maple Springs donates the proceeds from their monthly breakfasts to a different charity each month. Thank you, Abby, for helping this worthy cause!

## New to You Needs

Any time you are bored and looking for a job, you can stop by the New to You shop to lend a helping hand. All the proceeds from the New to You Shop go towards funding other ministries like the Crisis Fund and the UM Youth of Marshall County. At the moment, the New to You needs a set of old lockers hauled off to the dump (strong men with trucks needed), weeds pulled, sticks and garbage picked up around the grounds before the first big mowing. Of course, inside they could always use help sorting and hanging clothes. Call Jerri Cross to see when and where you're needed or just stop by.

New to You 527-5147