

What's Happening

- ♦ Chicks & Sticks—
February 2
- ♦ Blood Pressure Screening—
February 3
- ♦ Women's Book Group—
February 9
- ♦ Financial Peace Preview—
February 10 & 17
- ♦ Ash Wednesday Service—
February 13
- ♦ Classics Luncheon—
February 21
- ♦ Lenten Soup Supper
& Service — February 21



*May God's Love
Be Your
Greatest Joy!*

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February 2013
Volume 11, Issue 2



Pastor's Pen

"Breaking the Barrier"

As I write this, the temperature has finally climbed above freezing. I had forgotten how warm 35° could feel! The extended cold and ice have created some real hardships for some of you. There has also been quite a bit of illness going around. Just getting through January and living to see February has been challenge enough for some of you! We have missed you in church. It will be good to have you back.

Tracking worship attendance is important to me. It's important because it is the best, easily-measurable barometer of a church's health. We didn't get off to the best start in 2013, largely due to the weather. Our average through January is 160. The goal we have set for this year is 220, so we have some catching up to do.

Last year our goal was 200. We just missed it. Our 2012 average with one Sunday to go was 199.5. Most pastors I know would have rounded that up to 200! But then a poorly attended last Sunday of the year dropped us down to 198. Not bad though, compared to our 2011 average of 183.

I have a book with the title The Myth of the 200 Barrier. Many churches and pastors would testify that this is no myth. It is very real. They have worked so hard to build their church up to just about the size we are right now. And then try as they might, they can't get bigger. They have bumped into an invisible barrier. In most cases, such churches accept this, kind of like you accept the weight barrier you can't seem to break through no matter how hard you diet and exercise. As I hear my mom say frequently of her church that's grown down to about 70 now, "I like our church just the size it is."

Well, that's fine if church is about what we "like". But if church is about the Great Commission and going out into the world to make disciples of Jesus Christ, then we need to figure out how to reach some new people.

Though it is a myth that churches can't grow beyond 200 in worship, there is a reason why many do not. The range of 150 - 200 is about the maximum number of people one pastor can keep track of and take care of. So churches built around the model of the pastor as the "head shepherd" have a built-in resistance to growing beyond that size. What pastor would want a church bigger than he/she can handle?

The trick is to break through that "pastor-centered" mind-set. Once the laity are trained and empowered and set free to do the ministry, the possibilities are endless. This requires a pastor who can see beyond the current "flock" to the mission field outside our front doors. And this requires a congregation willing to accept the changes that come with growth and to do whatever it takes to reach new people.

Continued on page 2



Pastor's Pen continued

Here are five characteristics of churches poised to bust past 200 on their way to whatever size God knows they are ready to handle:

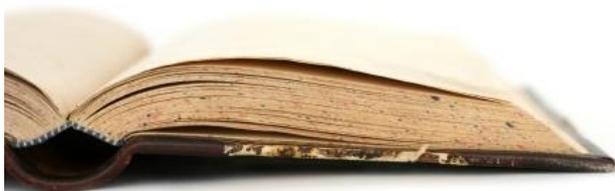
- The church is organized around passion and needs. We don't just do things because we've always done them. We do things that meet needs and that fan the flame of our passion to Know Christ, Love God, and Serve Others.
- The church structure is stream-lined. We are right in the middle of this transition as we move to a single-board model.
- We bring an entrepreneurial, "whatever it takes", spirit to the challenge of reaching the un-churched.
- We give children and parents a disproportionate share of our time, attention, and resources.
- Small groups are utilized as the best way to build closeness and to build up Christians.

I remember Rolla Reedy. He was a dear man and a strong leader in an earlier church I served. Each time I would propose a new worship attendance goal, he would stand up and give his speech. "A goal without an action plan is nothing more than a wish." I heard that speech enough times, I got tired of it. But he was right! We will not break through any worship attendance barrier just by saying we are going to. It's going to take a plan. It's going to take all of us working together and working with passion on whatever it takes to make new disciples of Jesus Christ.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John", with a horizontal line underneath.

THIS MONTH'S SERMON TOPICS

February 3	"A Sermon for Super Bowl Sunday"	Micah 6:1-8 Matthew 5:1-12
February 10	"What Do You Know?"	I Corinthians 13
February 17	"Journey to Hope: Relationships"	Mark 10:13-16
February 24	"Journey to Hope: Self-Esteem"	Mark 11:1-11





I'm sure that everybody is just as sick of the freezing cold as we are at Kids Stuff. In fact, I know our parents are. I hear them talk about how if their kids don't get out and run off some energy soon, they're going to drive them crazy! It's no different for the teachers. Lynn and I were just talking about Easter being early this year and joking about how instead of me mowing to spruce up the church for Easter weekend, I'll have to take a snow blower to our grass on the playground for the egg hunt. I do commend Ms. Cheri though — she pre-planned a snow day and sent letters to parents saying they were going out to play in the snow. Everybody came prepared and the kids had a blast. We just keep praying that our cooped up crazy winter days give us a break soon.

*God Bless,
Ms. Carolyn*

Mentoring

Mentoring is about learning, being a sounding board for the mentee. A mentor should be a person who will listen without judging, without placing their morals and values on the mentee and without preconceived notions about what the mentee needs. The mentor's job is to help people find their strengths and passions and their own way in life. Allowing the mentee to grow at their own pace and direction. As a mentor you help the mentee understand that everyone makes mistakes and we need to learn from the mistakes. A mentor should have patience, faith, and trust. Mentees need positive relationships with positive adults who have learned from their mistakes. A Bible verse that fits is 1 Peter 4:10-11, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace". *To mentor is to help another person without expecting any personal gain.*

The purpose statement at First United Methodist Church reads:

Know Christ ♦ Love God ♦ Serve Others

In addition to the purpose statement, the final statement on the Sunday bulletin reads:

"Our service of worship has ended. Our worship through service now begins."

There are several ways to become a mentor:

Coach a local sports team.

Become a scout leader.

Participate in Big Brother/Big Sister organizations.

To learn more about becoming a mentor, please visit:

www.mentoringnetworkid.org

Dwayne Evanson





Finance Committee

The finance committee wants to thank you for your financial support of the church. The pledge drive was successful and we look forward to another good year.

However, we have a chronic problem. Perhaps you have experienced this personally as well. It is known as too much month at the end of the money. We have a significant cash flow problem. At the end of 2012, we have a deficit of approximately \$14,000 — not including unpaid apportionments.

We would appreciate your continued financial support and prayers as the finance committee develops our 2013 budget.

Don Schultze, Finance Chair

United Methodist Men

The cold and snow did not prevent the men from showing up for a time of fellowship and participating in the subject of RELATIONSHIPS from the "Man In The Mirror" book. The meeting was opened up with a unison prayer and the question "What is new between you and God?"

We want to thank Polly Hayward for the ham she donated to be used at the Community Shelter, it made a great base for the ham and potato soup that was prepared. Nearly all of the soup prepared for the winter day was served to the those who braved the cold. When they were told that Dennis Frasier had fractured his arm, a women at the Shelter said she would pray for his recovery.

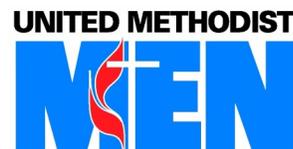
Information and a challenge from the General Conference of United Methodist Men was shared with the group that all of us can work on. The challenge was that as Christians we need to declare our faith to the world. It was stated that 80-90% of Christians never witness to a single person their devotion to God. We are more comfortable in talking about accomplishments, children, and health. The GCUMM's second challenge was from Luke 10:29 "Who is my neighbor?"

We need to look for things that need to be done in the community and volunteer our time and knowledge.

Following is a summary of the session on RELATIONSHIPS. No area of a man's life has more potential for improvement than his relationship with his family. If you don't have enough time for your family, you can be 100% certain you are not following God's will for your life. When men are asked what is your greatest regret in life it generally is that I was so busy trying to improve my family's standard of living that my kids were grown and gone and now they are too busy. I want to thank all the men for their participation in discussing the issues that us men face.

Every man in the church is invited to attend our monthly breakfast meeting. The next meeting is February 12, 2013 at 8:00AM at the Quik Wok located at 1120 12th Avenue Road.

Dwayne Evanson





SPONSORED BY THE
NAMPA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

6:00 P.M. SOUP SUPPER
7:00 P.M. SERVICE

(Good Friday service is at noon. No meal)

DATE	CHURCH	SPEAKER
February 13 Ash Wednesday	College Church of the Nazarene	Fred Fullerton
Thursday, February 21	First United Methodist (that's us!)	Meggan Manlove
Thursday, February 28	The Salvation Army	To Be Announced
Thursday, March 7	Southside United Methodist	Andy Satta
Thursday, March 14	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Gary Waller
Thursday, March 21	Trinity Lutheran	John Watts (that's our pastor!)
March 29 Good Friday	Presbyterian Church	Chi Morgan

LOVE Month for Love, INC



February is LOVE MONTH for Love, INC. It is in this month of "love" that they really push to get the word out about Love, INC. One of those ways is to really encourage participation in their on-going "Product Drive".

They collect a large portion of product (food, kitchen, and hygiene) through this one drive alone. These items are then distributed through Love, INC's food distribution program and/or incentive program.

Look for the Love, INC tree in the church entrance. The usual tags have been replaced with BIG hearts with various food, kitchen, or hygiene items that you can purchase and donate. You can buy one, a half dozen or a case if so moved of any of these items. All donations will bless a family in need in one way or another. The donation basket is located in the church entrance as well, next to the Love, INC tree.

You are encouraged to visit the Love, INC website at: www.loveinctv.org



Financial Peace[®] UNIVERSITY

Beginning in March, Nampa First United Methodist Church will again be offering the Financial Peace University course. The coordinators will be Danny and Nancy Jacobsen. The course will be nine weeks in length starting on Thursday, March 7th and ending May 2nd. Classes will be 90 minutes long beginning at 6:30 p.m. Snacks will be provided. Childcare arrangements will be made as needed.

LESSON 1	Super Saving <i>Common Sense for Your Dollars and Cents</i> Dave explains the seven Baby Steps that will guide you throughout Financial Peace University. You will also learn the three key reasons why you should save money—and why you must start now!	Thursday March 7, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 2	Relating With Money <i>Nerds and Free Spirits Unite!</i> Learn why it's important for spouses to communicate and work together toward success. Also, singles will learn the importance of accountability, and parents will find out how to teach their kids about money.	Thursday March 14, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 3	Cash Flow Planning <i>The Nuts and Bolts of Budgeting</i> Learning how to take control of your money starts with a budget. Unlock the secret of developing a month spending plan that really works.	Thursday March 21, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 4	Dumping Debt <i>Breaking the Chains of Debt</i> It's time to debunk some common debt myths! Dave reveals the truth about credit lies and give you a plan to walk out of debt with confidence.	Thursday March 28, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 5	Buyer Beware <i>The Power of Marketing on Your Buying Decisions</i> Dave draws on decades of experience to reveal the power and influence that marketing has on your everyday buying decisions.	Thursday April 4, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 6	The Role of Insurance <i>Protecting Your Health, Family and Finances</i> In this lesson, Dave walks you through the world of insurance, carefully explaining what you need — and what you need to avoid.	Thursday April 11, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 7	Retirement and College Planning <i>Mastering the Alphabet Soup of Investing</i> Dave walks you through the maze of retirement options and helps you figure out your best retirement plan. You will also learn how to plan for college so your kids can graduate debt free!	Thursday April 18, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 8	Real Estate and Mortgages <i>Keeping the American Dream From Becoming a Nightmare</i> Dave draws on over 20 years of real estate experience to teach you how to win when buying or selling your home.	Thursday April 25, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.
LESSON 9	The Great Misunderstanding <i>Unleashing the Power of Generous Giving</i> Learn how generous giving can completely revolutionize your attitude and improve your finances, business and relationships.	Thursday May 2, 2013 6:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.

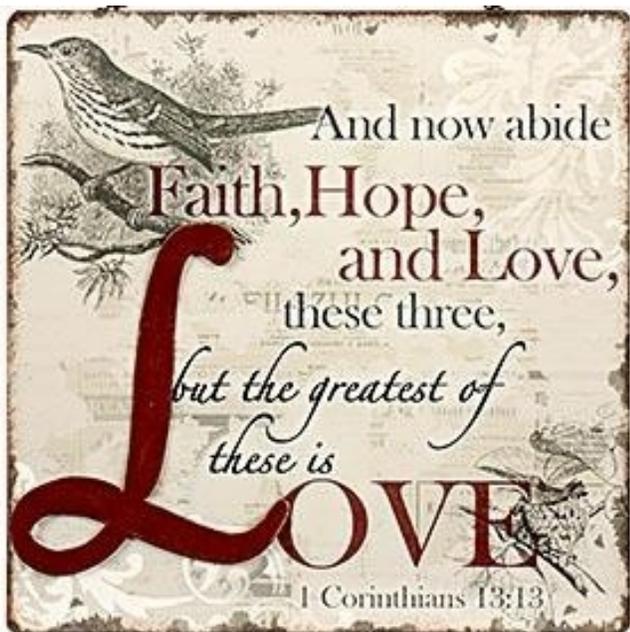
If you have any questions,
please contact Danny or Nancy at 208.697.4770 or at njacobsen@canyonco.org
Watch for more details in the weeks to come in Sunday announcement slides and bulletin inserts.

Administrative Council

Administrative Council met Monday, January 14. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- ♦ A proposal that the church adopt a single-board organizational model was accepted. The next steps will be town hall meetings (January 27 and 28), a training session led by Kim Fields, and a specially called Church Conference.
- ♦ We are hosting one the Nampa Ministerial Association Lenten soup suppers and worship services. The date is February 21 (see full schedule on page 5).
- ♦ Kids Stuff announced their distribution of profits to the church. This will be evenly divided among apportionments, education, and mission.
- ♦ Trustees reported their election of 2013 officers: President, Patsy Waters; Vice-President, Helen Watts; Secretary, Jodie Mogensen.
- ♦ Bids are being received to re-seal the parking lot.
- ♦ The dates for Vacation Bible School were announced: June 17-21.
- ♦ A goal for 2013 worship attendance was adopted: 220.

Administrative Council will meet next on Monday, February 11 at 7:30 p.m.



Corrie Bruder
2925 E. Iowa Avenue ♦ Nampa 83686
615-0639

Jack & Sandra Burrington
2422 12th Avenue Road, #351 ♦ Nampa 83686
467-0151

Amy Dinius & Adam Rux
339 S. Westwood Blvd. ♦ Nampa 83686
465-5034

Sandy Hopkins
2804 E. Lewis Lane ♦ Nampa 83686
442-7391

Leah Hurlbert
1119 W. Holland Avenue ♦ Nampa 83651
936-5676

Patty Thielges
1127 Caldwell Blvd, # 343 ♦ Nampa 83651
440-1351

Adrienne Young
507 12th Avenue South ♦ Nampa 83651
466-8715

Entered into membership on
December 2, 2012

Bits and Bites

Dear Church Family,

As many already know, this past couple of months has been crazy for my family. And anyone who knows my family (Jay, Amber, and Tyler) knows we are seldom at a loss for words. But the concerns and prayers from this congregation and my staff are more than any one person deserves or could expect. I could not wish to be employed and surrounded by more supportive people than I already am.

If there is any truth in the saying "There is more strength in numbers", then I am confident that we will stay strong through it all. Thank you!

*Our Love and Appreciation
is with you all,
Carolyn, Jay and Family*

SWiM - Single Women Magic

It's been a while since the single women met, but we managed to start 2013 off with a beef stew dinner at Phyllis' followed by a rousing game of "Wits and Wages". To continue the fun, we have planned additional SWiM gatherings for the following days, hosted by:



February 23 at 1:00 p.m. Hosted by Phyllis Montgomery.

March 23 at 1:00 p.m. Hosted by Doreen Webb.

April 20 at 1:00 p.m. Hosted by Joanne Blanton.

May 18 at 1:00 p.m. Hosted by Diane Morris.

June 15 at 1:00 p.m. Hosted by Jean Holland.

As always, we would like to extend a heartfelt invitation to any single women in OR out of the church who would like to become part of the Single Women Magic (SWiM for short). For more information on the group and/or upcoming events, please contact any of the people listed above.

RACHEL CIRCLE

will meet Thursday, February 14 at 1:30 p.m. at Helen Reed's: 29 South Rolling Green/Nampa.

Leona Romilly will give the program from Women of the Bible.

Any questions, please call Barbara Chock at 461-4304.

FELLOWSHIP COOKIES

If your last name begins with one of the following letters, please bring 3-4 dozen store bought or homemade cookies on your designated date.

If you have any questions, call Joanne Blanton @ 463-9415.



Wh, Y, Z ... February 3

A, B ... February 10

C ... February 17

D, E, F ... February 24

G, H ... March 3

J, K ... March 10

DEADLINE!

To submit an article for the MARCH newsletter, please have your information to the church office by Tuesday, February 19. THANK YOU!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Feb 3 Denzel Moss
- Feb 4 Joanne Blanton
- Feb 4 Wanda Smith
- Feb 4 Rene Johnson
- Feb 6 Cherri Healea
- Feb 8 Al Cryder
- Feb 8 Betty Ziegler
- Feb 8 Laurie DeLay
- Feb 11 Jim Baker
- Feb 11 Sander Hoefling
- Feb 12 Matt Carter
- Feb 14 Lorraine Fields
- Feb 16 G.W. Lane
- Feb 16 Janis Bruneel
- Feb 16 Dale Winch
- Feb 18 Bob Welker
- Feb 20 Martha Horton
- Feb 20 Dennis Parry
- Feb 25 Nancy Jacobsen
- Feb 25 Elmer Gossett
- Feb 25 Mike Krall
- Feb 26 Carolyn Curtis
- Feb 28 Phyllis Montgomery
- Feb 28 Hannah Kepner

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- Feb 15 Jim & Melissa Sullivan

NUMBERS THAT MATTER

January	6	13	20	27
9 am	78	74	67	70
11am	79	59	108	69
6 pm	13	0	11	11
Total	170	133	186	150

2013 Average: 160 2013 Goal: 220

Giving:

January Revenue: \$15,612.
 January Expenses: \$16,976.

Percentage of Apportionments Paid: 0%
 Percentage of Year Gone: 8%

Ten ways to love

1. Listen without interrupting. (Proverbs 18)
2. Speak without accusing. (James 1:19)
3. Give without sparing. (Proverbs 21:26)
4. Pray without ceasing. (Colossians 1:9)
5. Answer without arguing. (Proverbs 17:1)
6. Share without pretending. (Ephesians 4:15)
7. Enjoy without complaint. (Philippians 2:14)
8. Trust without wavering. (Corinthians 13:7)
9. Forgive without punishing. (Colossians 3:13)
10. Promise without forgetting. (Proverbs 13:12)



Nampa First United Methodist Church
 2717 12th Avenue Road • Nampa, ID 83686
 208-467-1151 • Email: nampaumc@gmail.com

KIDS STUFF EARLY LEARNING PRESCHOOL
 AND CHILD CARE CENTER
 208-467-2178

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 THE FRIENDLY CALLER

February 2013

SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS



Our building is accessible to all!

Childcare in the nursery is provided during morning services.

9:00 a.m. – Wesley Service: Traditional worship
 10:00 a.m. – Sunday School & Shared Fellowship Time
 11:00 a.m.—Youth Group
 11:00 a.m. – Celebration Service: Contemporary worship
 6:00 p.m. – Simply Worship: For the disabled and their friends

We're on the web!



www.nampaumc.org



NFUMC STAFF

Pastor:	<i>John Watts</i>
Office Manager:	<i>Carol Ogren</i>
Church Life:	<i>Kathy Huff</i>
Kid's Stuff Director:	<i>Carolyn Curtis</i>
Treasurer:	<i>Traci Alonzo</i>
Organist:	<i>Nancy Parks</i>
Choir Director:	<i>Jeanne Kusterer</i>
Lead Musician:	<i>Tim Swanson</i>
Custodian:	<i>Carolyn Curtis</i>
Lay Leader:	<i>Leatha Thayer</i>
Bishop:	<i>Grant Hagiya</i>
District Superintendent:	<i>Kim Fields</i>

Office Hours



Monday through Friday
 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.