



The Wesley E-Circuit

Wesley United Methodist Church

1st Week of January, 2012

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



Though it doesn't seem possible that another year has flown by it has, and we now find ourselves in 2012 (how does this happen?). We will not have a newsletter until later this month, but we wanted to keep you abreast of the what's happening at Wesley. Read on for the latest news . . .

JANUARY MISSION PROJECT: *Haiti Solar Oven Project*

The **Haiti Solar Oven Project** is seeking to increase the distribution of solar ovens holding *"to the vision of an educational program that is all about offering training for aspiring solar cooks, and not about pushing ovens on a population perceived to need them. As it stands, the demand created by this educational outreach exceeds our resources to supply all of the training and ovens being requested by church and community leaders across Haiti—a good problem!"* The goal is to provide up to 2,000 solar ovens per year over the next few years!

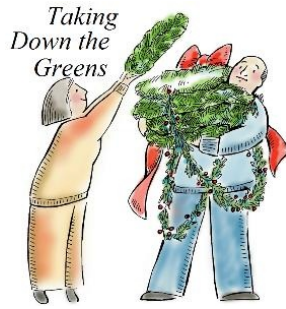


According to the United Nations World Food Program, 33% of Haitian children under 5 years of age suffer from chronic under-nutrition. 76% of Haitians live on less than \$2.00 (U.S.) per day with 60% (\$1.20) spent on food and 25% (\$.60) spent on cooking fuel, hence the need for solar ovens to harness the power of the sun, which is free. According to Rick Jost, Dakotas Conference Missionary, "Component parts for our solar ovens are manufactured in the USA, packaged here, and shipped to Haiti for assembly. Many, but certainly not all, of our ovens are assembled by United Methodist Volunteers in Mission teams that are organized by Solar Oven Partners and travel to Haiti to assist our Haitian staff for both conducting solar cooking seminars and assembling solar ovens." The Haiti Solar Mission Project takes a one-by-one approach to empower individuals to accept personal responsibility through facilitating personal action.

If you would like to contribute to this effort, **please write your check to Wesley United Methodist Church**, and write **SOLAR OVENS** on the memo line. Your support is greatly appreciated as we continue to combat the poverty and devastation from the January 12th, 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

~The Missions Work Area





Please join us **THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 8**, for a **potluck** followed by a **Taking Down the Greens Party** immediately following the 10:45 worship service. You have heard it said that “many hands make light work,” and we hope you will bring your hands to help this Sunday! We plan on being done un-decorating between 1:30 & 2:00 PM. We will meet in the sanctuary afterwards for a short time of devotion. Folks of all ages are invited, needed and welcome!! Bring a dish and join us on Sunday at 12:00 noon. (Please note: if you would like to attend the potluck but cannot stay to help un-decorate, you are certainly still welcome to bring a dish and join in the fellowship.)

UNITED METHODISM 101 will be taught by Reverend Carlson in the sanctuary during the Sunday School hour the Sundays of January 15th, 22nd, and 29th. The class is designed for those who are exploring Methodism for the first time AND for those who are looking for a “refresher course”. On February 5th we will be receiving new members into our congregation. Talk to Rev. Wally for more information.



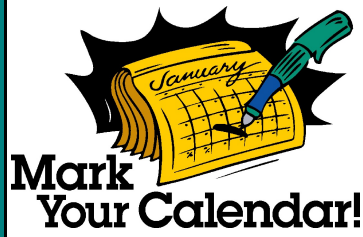
STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING applications are now being accepted in the church office. The 50-hour training will begin in January. If you would like to join Wesley’s team of compassionate Stephen Ministers, please stop by the office to pick up your application or contact Donna Hudson at 345-3917 or donna@charlestonwesley.org.

THE 2012 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR - There are numerous dates left on the 2012 altar flower calendar which is located on the bulletin board just outside the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up to provide flowers on the date(s) of your choice. Several dates in January are still available.



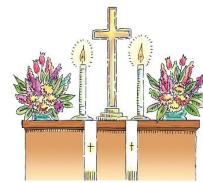
WESLEY BOOK CLUB NEWS - The Wesley Book Club will be reading *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet: A Novel* by Jamie Ford. This year’s first meeting will be held January 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in Room 129. “In the opening pages of Jamie Ford’s stunning debut novel, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, Henry Lee comes upon a crowd gathered outside the Panama Hotel, once the gateway to Seattle’s Japantown. It has been boarded up for decades, but now the new owner has made an incredible discovery: the belongings of Japanese families, left when they were rounded up and sent to internment camps during World War II. As Henry looks on, the owner opens a Japanese parasol. This simple act takes old Henry Lee back to the 1940s, at the height of the war, when young Henry’s world is a jumble of confusion and excitement” (taken from www.amazon.com). Please speak to the group’s facilitator, Carolyn Adkins, for more information.

WEDNESDAY CHAPEL WORSHIP RETURNS THIS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4 – Each Wednesday evening a short worship service is offered in the Wesley Chapel at 6:00 p.m. These informal services are based on the scripture passage which will be used as the basis for the following Sunday morning's sermon. Communion is offered each week. Dress is casual - please come as you are for prayer, song, communion and a short homily.



An **ALL-CHURCH RETREAT** will be held at Wesley Church on **Saturday, January 28th**. The purpose of the retreat will be to do some visioning as well as spending time together in fellowship, prayer and worship. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please talk to Rev. Wally or call him in the church office at 345-3917.

We are in need of a few more creative folks to be a part of the **ALTAR COMMITTEE**. Committee members serve for one month at a time to get the altar ready for Sunday morning worship. If you are interested in being a part of this important ministry, please call the church office or talk to Ann Sidwell, Altar Committee Coordinator.



NEWS FROM TROOP 141



Webelos Scouts from St. Charles Borromeo's Pack 41, who will be crossing over into the troop in March, visited recently to see what scouting is all about. Our scouts showed them how to make cobbler in a dutch oven. While it was baking, they used lashing skills to construct a Chippewa kitchen and a table using the troop's seventh donated canoe, which the Webelos got to name.

Fifteen scouts and ten adults recently received two-year certification in adult and child CPR and use of the troop's Automated External Defibrillator. Eric Woodley, of the Charleston Fire Department, provided the instruction.

Troop 141, with 32 scouts, has been rechartered to Wesley UMC by the Boy Scouts of America for 2012, the 12th year of the church's scout troop.

There's always room for more scouts! Applicants need to have completed the fifth grade, or boys who have received the Arrow of Light award as a Cub Scout can join at 10 years of age. Contact Todd Cassell or Keith Kohanzo for more information.

NEWSLETTER COLLATORS NEEDED: Once a month, folks gather to collate the newsletter for mailing to Wesley folks near and far. It's more fun than work as we gather to catch up, have conversation and put the newsletter together. We meet on a Thursday morning (usually, but not always, the last Thursday of the month) at 9:00 AM. The entire endeavor only takes about 30 minutes or so. If you would be available and are interested in helping out, please contact Rosalie Addison at raddison@charlestonwesley.org or call her in the office at 345-3917.



The Chancel Choir begins rehearsing again next **Wednesday, January 11 at 7:00 PM**. They meet in the choir room (Room 121) which is at the very end of the hallway if you enter the church through the northwest doors. All singers Grade 9 and above are welcome. If you have been wanting to join, now is the time! Talk to director Patty Poulter for more information.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT WESLEY'S HOLY CLUB?

In the early years of Methodism, John and Charles Wesley initiated Holy Clubs whose members agreed to participate in designated spiritual practices and be accountable to one another. Wesley UMC is embarking on our own version of the Holy Club. If you were not here last Sunday, pick up a copy of the Holy Club Covenant on the coffee table outside the sanctuary OR in the church office. Look it over to see if it is something you would like to participate in/commit to doing, sign the covenant, and let Rev. Wally know you are interested in being a part of the Club. For more information, please talk to Rev. Wally on Sunday morning or call him in the church office at 345-3917.



Middle School Open Gym

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS are invited and encouraged to bring their friends with them on Sunday evenings at 5:00 PM to **OPEN GYM** before the UMYF meets (at 6:00 PM). This will be a great time to get your game on as well as a time of getting to know some new folks, and did we mention have a lot of fun!? If you have any questions, please talk to UMYF Director Debby Carlson on Sunday morning or by email her at dcarlson@charlestonwesley.org.

PLEASE NOTE: The church office will be closed on Monday, January 16 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

