



**Echoes from the Hills**  
**March 2017**  
**Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church**  
**St. George, Utah**



**MICHAEL'S MUSINGS**

*"Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch... for our Paschal lamb Christ has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival not with the old yeast, the yeast of brokenness and arrogance, but with the bread which is marked by sincerity and truth."*

*Corinthians 5:7-8*

After he got back to Cali from his month long stay with us, Alex sent a picture of something out of his refrigerator via cell phone and it was interesting as Anne and I tried to figure out what it was. The note said "Guess what this is," and I had to admit I could not fathom what it could be! Blue, green and stuck in a freezer bag. I passed on the mantle of definition to Anne who finally proclaimed "I have no idea what that is!" We texted Alex back with no answer but only the other great question, "What?!" He said, "That is my roommate's spaghetti from over a month ago!!!"

My thought is that he could probably have used it for germ warfare, but as the jokes subsided, the moment asked me to reflect upon what happens when we, as believers, stay stagnant in our faith. Paul, in dealing with the Corinthians, exhorts them to stay fresh by not dwelling with the same patterns that are destructive. The issue Paul is addressing is one in which someone is being "tolerated" even though they are continuing in ways which are harmful to themselves and others. He speaks of the bread going bad, and how the smell and the bacteria will not just make the bread useless but is actually dangerous. In removing the unhealthy, the climate for creating wholeness becomes more of a reality.

As we prepare for our shifts in congregational life over the next four weeks, I hope you will begin to think about the Lenten experience as a "casting away" of that which has become old and stale in our lives and assume new characteristics which strengthen and transform us. I pray the season of Lent will be one of renewal of our spirits and may the Lord point us toward the way which leads to new life!

See you in worship  
 Rev. Michael

**Reverend Michael V. Chamness**

Rev. Buddy Herrington &  
 Rev. Carolyn Jordan -  
 Pastors Emeritus

**Blended Worship:**  
 8:30 am

**Traditional Worship:**  
 11:00 am

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**Chamness**

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# CONDENSED FINANCE REPORT

JANUARY 2017

<b>INCOME:</b>	<b><u>This Month</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
Pledges & Loose plate	38,779	38,779
Designated	3,193	3,193
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>41,972</b>	<b>41,972</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Education	88	88
Evangelism	129	200
Worship	0	0
Stephen Ministry	0	0
Staff Parish	14,282	14,282
Missions	100	100
Music	235	235
Finance	7,124	7,124
Trustees	2,949	2,949
Mortgage	4,990	4,990
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>29,987</b>	<b>29,987</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>11,985</b>	<b>11,985</b>



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

### WHAT IS LENT'S PURPOSE AND WHY DO WE CELEBRATE IT?

Lent is a time in the church year that we prepare for Easter. It is a forty-day period of time (not including Sundays) just prior to Easter. The time is reflective of the 40 years of Moses and his followers wandering in the desert and the 40 days of Jesus' time in the wilderness. It is a time of self-examination to prepare for Easter, often including fasting, repentance and reflection on Jesus in our lives.

The dates change on a yearly basis, because Easter is considered a movable feast dependent upon the time of a full moon. People often use this as a time to "give up" something - fattening food, a bad habit, etc. Mardi Gras, which has included indulgences of all kinds, has its basis in "using up foods that were prohibited during the "fast."

We, like Christians world-wide, will begin the period of Lent in our Church with:

- **Ash Wednesday - Imposition of the Ashes:** March 1 at Noon and again at 7:00pm. We will begin our Lenten experience with the Imposition of the Ashes and some songs and time of reflection. Come be a part of this important time of mercy and reclamation as we seek the ways of the Lord.
- **The Living Last Supper presentation:** Maundy Thursday, April 13, at 7:00pm. This presentation will include a performance by the SHUMC Chancel Choir.
- **Good Friday Interfaith Worship:** A worship time will be held on April 14 at 7pm here at Shepherd of the Hills.
- **Palm Sunday:** April 9
- **Easter Sunday:** April 16



### ESTHER BIBLE STUDY CLASS

A 5-week **Esther Bible Study Class** will begin on **Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 10:00am** in Fellowship Hall. Signup sheets are in the narthex.



The next meeting of the United Methodist Men will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2017, at 8:00am at the Wagon Wheel Diner.



## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - WEDNESDAY, March 8, 1 pm**

Our next meeting will be on March 8. Please join us for fellowship, food and fun. We will welcome a speaker from the Southwest Behavioral Health Center who will talk about suicide prevention. If you like, bring a ream of paper or a package of diapers for one of our local charities. Call Karen at 925-708-3655 if you have questions or need a ride.

## **NOTES FROM OUR TRUSTEES**

### **ROOM RECONFIGURATIONS**

Thanks to the efforts of the Trustees and a few additional volunteers, the Choir is now in their new home. Rooms 5&6 were being under-utilized and the Choir needed more room. Therefore, over the last few weeks, closets were remodeled, walls were painted, and the floor was carpeted. And thanks to our caring congregation, most of it has been paid for. A real tribute to those who care for God's house. The great news is that Room 4 will NOT become a storage room. It will continue to be our library and small class/meeting room.

Now that the Choir is settled in their new room, the previous Choir Room (Room 7) will become a large class/meeting room. After the walls are painted and carpet is cleaned, we will purchase some tables and a TV monitor to facilitate our Pastor's commitment to continuing education. We hope to have this done by the end of February if the funding can be found.

### **AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS ON THE SHUMC CAMPUS**

We now have two Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) on the SHUMC campus. One is located in the Narthex between the two restrooms and the other in the Education Wing between the two restrooms. You need not be certified to use them, however, a basic knowledge of CPR would be helpful.

We have contacted the St. George Fire Department and **tentatively set up Monday, March 20 at 2 pm for a CPR class**. There is a \$20 charge and the minimum is 15 people. **We will set up a table on Sunday, March 5, to promote and sign people up for the class**. We can have one of the new AED's on display as well as other printed materials. We **need a couple of volunteers to staff the table for eac**, know if you are willing to volunteer to sit at one of the tables.

Until then, feel free to check out this YouTube video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHgNQ9DRZns> You never know when you might be called upon to save the life of a friend...

## MISSION NEWS



**SHUMC joint Mission Trip with Hilltop UMC in Sandy, UT  
to Diwozihibikoooh (southeastern Utah by the four corners).  
April 28-30, 2017**

SHUMC is embarking on a joint Mission Trip with Hilltop UMC in Sandy, UT, to Diwozihibikoooh (southeastern Utah by the four corners) on April 28-30, 2017. We will be painting, caulking and hanging metal flashing on the Navajo Church. We can stay in their big fellowship hall. They have two bathrooms complete w/showers. They have a wonderful kitchen attached to the hall. We'll need to bring our air mattresses, cots, sleeping bags, towels, toiletries. We can take RV's, but there are no connections, so it is dry camping, or there are RV parks and motels in Blanding (bout 30-35 miles away). We have sign-ups in the Narthex. We will have an **organizational breakfast at Keith & Helen's April 1, for those who are going**. For more information, contact Helen at 801-875-3977 or at keithhelen@msn.com.

We will have sign-ups for Pinecliff beginning this month. Save the date on your calendar: **August 25-August 31**. Not too early to think about Pinecliff if you will be leaving for the summer and want to join us. Watch for more information in May and June, or contact Hermon or Linda Earls for more information at 435-673-4033 or [hlearls@yahoo.com](mailto:hlearls@yahoo.com).

**UTAH FOOD BANK WORK DAY - SATURDAY March 4, 2017 9-11am**  
(4416 South River Road)

Sign-ups are available in the narthex for:

**Soup Kitchen: Friday, March 31** (9:15-11:15am and 11:15-1:15pm)  
and

**SwitchPoint Food Distribution: March 3 & March 17** (9-11am & 11am-1pm)



**Don't forget:**

Daylight Saving time begins early  
Sunday morning, March 12, 2017!



**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

Kathy Platt.....3  
 Neil Cole.....4  
 Darlene Greer.....8  
 Mary Herrington .....8  
 Ed Adams.....10  
 Keaton Smith.....11  
 Barb Clemens.....12  
 Ari Alo.....15  
 Luma Alo.....16  
 Gregg Freeman.....16  
 Linda Browne.....19  
 Darlene Adams.....20  
 Karen Lee.....22  
 Jessica Wisecup.....24  
 Vicki Broomhead.....28  
 Juanita Spencer.....28






***Happy Anniversary***

*Mike & Sherry Cummins.....1*  
*Jack & Charlotte Reed .....7*  
*Bob & Bette Stoll.....8*  
*Jim & Julie Boston.....11*  
*Zeke & Aleen Martin.....23*  
*Jim & Jessica Wisecup.....24*



**FUN FOR LUNCH BUNCH**

The next Fun for Lunch Bunch will meet at **The Green Iguana in the Red Lion Hotel** located at **850 South Bluff Street** at **11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 15, 2017.** Please call Kathy at 435-632-9321 by **Tuesday, March 14** to make a reservation. Come and enjoy an outing and meet some new friends....

MARCH 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 9a Stitchin' Bunch 12p Imposition of the Ashes  4p Evangelism 5:45 Education  7p Imposition of the Ashes	<b>2</b>  1p Islam Class   7p Bells	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9a Utah Food Bank Work Day
<b>5</b> Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am  Holy Communion	<b>6</b> 9a Sewing Session  4p Trustees  7p Disciple Bible Study	<b>7</b>  10a Esther Bible Study  5p Praise  7p Choir	<b>8</b> 9a Stitchin' Bunch  1p UMW 3p Missions  5:30p SPR	<b>9</b>  1p Islam Class  7p Bells	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>  Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am	<b>13</b> 9a <b>No</b> Sewing  1p Care Group  4p Trustees  7p Disciple Bible Study	<b>14</b>  10a Esther Bible Study  4p Worship  5p Praise 7p Choir	<b>15</b> 9a Stitchin' Bunch  11:30a Lunch Bunch	<b>16</b>  1p Islam Class  7p Bells	<b>17</b>  	<b>18</b>  8a United Methodist Men
<b>19</b>  Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am	<b>20</b> 9a Sewing Session  2p AED/CPR Training 3p ERT 4p Trusees  7p Disciple Bible Study	<b>21</b>  10a Esther Bible Study  5p Praise 7p Choir	<b>22</b> 9a Stitchin' Bunch	<b>23</b>  7p Bells	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  Worship Gathering 8:30 & 11 am	<b>27</b> 9a <b>No</b> Sewing  4p Trustees 5p Finance  7p Disciple Bible Study	<b>28</b> 10a Esther Bible Study  5p Praise  7p Choir	<b>29</b> 9a Stitchin' Bunch  7p Ad Council	<b>30</b>  7p Bells	<b>31</b>	

*Prayer Fasting Works of Love*



**40  
Days**