



"Because of God's tender mercy, the Dayspring from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace."

LUKE 1:78-79

February 17, 2010

Volume 4 Issue 4

The Season of Lent:

The season of Lent begins today on what the church knows as Ash Wednesday. Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days. All churches that have a continuous history extending before AD 1500 observe Lent. The ancient church that wrote, collected, canonized, and propagated the New Testament also observed Lent, believing it to be a commandment from the apostles.

Because Sunday is the day of the Resurrection, we skip over Sundays when we calculate the length of Lent. Therefore, in the Western Church, Lent always begins on Ash Wednesday, the seventh Wednesday before Easter.

In many countries, the last day before Lent (called Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Carnival, or Fasching) has become a last fling before the solemnity of Lent. For centuries, it was customary to fast by abstaining from meat during Lent, which is why some people call the festival Carnival, which is Latin for farewell to meat.



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Upcoming Events

Saturday Feb. 20th

Last day to sign up for Spring Softball!

Sunday Feb. 21st

*Communion
10:30 AM in main auditorium*

*Morning Service
11:00 AM at Carmike Theater*

Sunday Feb. 28th

*Morning Service
11:00 AM at Carmike*

Dayspring Kidz Invite You to Join them...

Last Sunday Sharon made an announcement seeking volunteers in the children's program for their upcoming series, "Dr. Tomorrow's Robot Repair Shop." She was delighted with such immediate and positive response. There are still a few openings for Adult Robot Mechanics (AKA Small Group Leaders). All materials are ready and available. This is a chance to serve your church and to help nurture faith in the life of a child. Please contact Sharon to participate.



Spring Softball!

The Spring Softball league will be starting soon. The first game will be Monday, March 15th. To sign up for the men's team e-mail dmcafee@pbsj.com, or for the Co-ed team email ltjoelker@gmail.com. Please specify men-only or co-ed, when you sign up. The cost has changed from last season; it is now \$35. Men can participate on both teams. The last day to sign up is Saturday, Feb. 20th. Hope to see you on the field!



Communion

Dayspring will celebrate the service of Holy Communion at 10:30 on February 21, which is the first Sunday in Lent. The service will take place in the adult worship theater # 8. The Communion Service lasts about 15 minutes and then we will have a few minutes before the adult and children's worship services begin. Plan to come to worship early that morning and gather together at the Lord's Table.



Coming Soon to Cumberland Road... From a Theater Near You!

The Dayspring Building Team has been hard at work over the past few months. They are now elated to present to you conceptual drawings of our proposed building from our architect Mike Butler! Make plans to be at worship on February 28th to see the drawings and hear about the idea and vision behind our "Church Without Walls".

Joining Information

We will have information on joining immediately following the service on Sunday, February 21st. Jeff Olive will lead a brief introduction and share about the vision and values of Dayspring Church. He will also explain what it means to take membership vows. There is no obligation to join. If you decide, however, you would like to join Dayspring UMC, you will be given the opportunity to do so during the worship service on Sunday,

Theater

*Opportunity to Join
Dayspring*

*See and hear our
"Church Without Walls"
vision and progress*

Monday Mar. 15th

Softball Begins!

Please Save the Date!

Celebration Sunday-May 2, 2010. We want you to be part of the biggest day in Dayspring's history on May 2nd. On that day we will officially charter as a United Methodist congregation, we will consecrate our new property and dedicate our gifts to God through our Building a Church without Walls. Yes, it's a BIG day.

Prayer Devotional in the Works...

A key component of "Building a Church Without Walls" will be a daily prayer devotional. We need YOUR help! We are looking for contributors to share their stories of faith. Dayspring church is a body made of persons of ALL ages and stages of life. We encourage submissions from children, youth, adults, staff, volunteers, members and visitors. When have you experienced a time in your life where God's presence made a lasting impression? How has your relationship with Jesus made a difference in your daily experiences? What is God

February 28th.

doing in your life or calling you to do right now? We are called to be disciples who encourage each other in our faith.

Please submit your stories to Linda Tyler or Sharon Troxell at ltyler@arkassurance.com or Sharon@dayspringumc.com

If you prefer to be anonymous, that is OK, too. We will not publish your name - only your story.