

#### Our Mission Statement

Invite and lead people to enter into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, nurture them in their faith and send them out into the world to share that faith.

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church

# The Chapel Messenger

March 2010

**Greetings to all of you in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord. I pray that this letter finds you well and in His will.**

In the Gospel of Luke Jesus talks about signs to the multitudes, *"Whenever you see a cloud rising out of the west immediately you say, 'A shower is coming'; and so it is. And when you see the south wind blow, you say, 'There will be hot weather'; and there is. Hypocrites! You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it you do not discern the time?"* (Luke 12:54-56)

When we travel, whether far or near, we are always looking for churches, and we are always reading the outdoor signs that all of the churches have, looking for something to bring home to share with all of you in an effort to touch someone's spirit. Sometimes there are interesting signs to read. Some are difficult to read while moving, and some signs move us while reading them. If they have too many words, we can't catch it all. Some are just a catchy phrase, short and simple.

Just recently, I thought about changing the sign outside. Now we can't read it anyway and, of course, then what am I going to put on it is the next topic. That seems to be a necessary part of the process. It needs to speak to the season, or to the time, or to the message to be presented. With this being the season of Lent, it seems appropriate to speak to the person and place of Jesus Christ, in our world and in our lives and hearts. Light and cute are signs such as, "CH\_\_ \_\_ CH", "What's missing?" UR (you are)...or "The Best Vitamin for a Christian is B1," or "Wal-Mart is not the ONLY Saving Place" These are some funny ones with a good message.

Every once in a while, I think we need to read a *heavy one*, one that really makes us think. One that you can't just drive past without really reading it for all it says. One like I found in Pittsburgh. "If your faith doesn't take you to church, it probably won't take you to heaven either". I had some time ago written one on the back of one of my business cards for later use, and not marking where I got it, I really don't know, but it recently surfaced on my desk and has been speaking to me for several weeks now..."The Real Issue is This: Is Jesus to be Worshipped or only Admired?" Every time I read it I stop and think. This IS the issue. Who Jesus Christ is and how He impacts my life and yours is the most important issue we will ever decide.

If we only admire Jesus as a great man, such as George Washington or Abraham Lincoln or some other interesting and admirable person, who did great things and lived a good life, that would not have an impact on our lives like knowing and worshipping the Lord of Lords and King of Kings. The great people in history all have one thing in common. They are all now dead. I can admire many people and yet not have peace with God. The only way I can have peace with God is to worship the Lord Jesus Christ and know Him as my Lord and Savior.

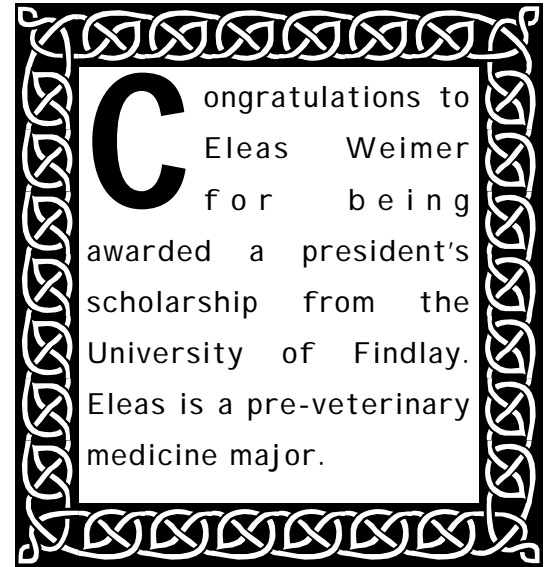
As one of the signs of the times in which we live, the greatest need, the greatest difficulty with our way of life is that we only admire Jesus. You may say that is not true for you, yet if we examine our lives for just a very few mo-

*Continued next page....*

ments, we will all see that we have not given Him the place or the position in our lives that He needs to have. For the most part we could honestly say that Jesus is not living in us. We admire Him and respect Him but He is not controlling our lives, He is not in charge, we are.

So you see the real issue I S, is Jesus someone that I admire or have I given my life to Him. If you have not put your complete faith and trust in Him as your Lord and Savior, if you have not asked Him to save you and fill you with His Spirit, if you are not living a life lead by Him, then you are not worshipping Him. You are only admiring Him, just like so many others. There is only one Lord and one Savior, only one worthy of worship and that is the Lord Jesus Christ. This season of Lent make Jesus Lord of your life and worship only Him.

See you in Church!



## A helping hand for the McConnell Family



Wesley Chapel mission group traveled to Pitcairn, PA on January 30, 2010, to help make repairs on the home (to be) of Theo, Renee and Shannon. The McConnell family lost their home and everything they owned to a fire in September of 2009. Also, the same day Mr. McConnell came home from the hospital after surgery on his back. The families was living in separate places for a while, but now they all have moved into a friend's home until the construction on their new home can be completed. The house they are going to move into is around 100 year old, and with that said, a lot of repairs are needed before that will be possible.

The first night we went to Pitcairn to look at the house to get an idea of how our mission group could help the McConnell family, Theo asked us, "Why are you helping me and my family?" Our answer to him was, "When you are called by the Lord you go."

Twenty-one volunteers worked on the house for eight hours completing several projects, such as, installing wood flooring in the kitchen and dining rooms, building a closet and vanity in the bathroom, installing an outside door, installing interior doors and adding shelves in the laundry room and closets and some painting.

We had a great day of fellowship, and I'm sure the McConnell family will remember our group as the joyful workers serving the Lord. Thanks to everyone who helped on this project. A special thanks to Bob Miller who donated the wood flooring for the kitchen.

"Building for the Lord"

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*Those Serving in March*

USHERS .....Craig Smith, Tim Heiple, Bobby Miller, Mark Temple

GREETERS

March 7.....Mark & Sandi Sechler  
March 14.....Craig Smith family  
March 21.....Mark Temple family  
March 28.....sign up on the bulletin board

ACOLYTE.....Jeremy Singo, Joseph Blough

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

March 7.....Isaiah 55:1-9.....Cathie Lester  
March 14.....Joshua 5:9-12.....Rene Temple  
March 21.....Isaiah 43:16-21.....Rhett Pletcher  
March 28.....Isaiah 50:4-9.....Emily Singo

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

March 7.....1 Corinthians 10:1-13.....Angie Millin  
March 14.....2 Corinthians 5:16-21.....Mark Millin  
March 21.....Philippians 3:4b-14.....Leanne Temple  
March 28.....Philippians 2:5-11.....Roger Hart

*If you are unable to read on your Sunday, please find a replacement.*

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**Reaching the Nations for Christ**  
**By providing a Student Scholarship**  
**at La Paz Christian School**



My name is Andres Felipe Ospina Rodriguez. I am nine years old and am in the fourth grade. I study at the La Paz Christian School in a neighborhood called Libertadores in the south of the city of Bogota, Colombia.

I like my school very much. It is new and the classrooms are very nice. There are four floors and that makes it stand tall in the community. There are over 200 students in the school this year.

I like my teachers and the principal. They are all very kind and loving. I like the subject of math.

My favorite animal is a lion. My favorite color is green. My favorite sport is soccer. My favorite number is 10.

My father's name is Wilson, and my mother's name is Yemina. I like to eat apples.

We live high in the mountains, and it is very cold. It doesn't snow, but is really cold at times.

It rains a lot, and we are not able to play outside much of the time at school. We do have a place on the fourth floor where we can have our recess time.

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# Prayer Calendar March 2010

*“Be careful of nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.” Phil. 4:6*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Gregg & Joyce Henry, Kaitlyn, Landon & Bryce	2 John Fahrny	3 Ethel Pletcher	4 Gary & Paige Wetterberg	5 World Day of Prayer	6 Shanna Parsons
7 Tyler Pritts	8 Dustin Ohler	9 Gary & Pam Weimer	10 Leon & Karen Ohler	11 Ida Mae Schmuck	12 For those who have lost jobs	13 Todd & Tracy Pritts
14 Our Shut-ins	15 Unsaved loved ones	16 Greg & Karen Worona	17 Megan Schmuck	18 Our Church	19 Rob & Chris Singo, Jeremy & Emily	20 Shawn & Holly Stene
21 Leora King	22 Chad & Lisa Miller, Mason, Brayden & Kaiden	23 Richard & Lugene Miller	24 Our Country and its Leaders	25 Russ & Sarah Pletcher, Rhett & Jack	26 Ryan Schmuck	27 Kristi Ohler
28 Our Youth	29 Derek King	30 Dale & Vicki Merchant, Stephen & Alexandria Gerber	31 Jay King			

## **A Look At Life**

We are born on this earth but not to stay.  
We came in with nothing and leave the same say.  
But that's not important to any one of us today.  
What is important is what we've accomplished along the way.  
Life is short no matter how long we live.  
The important thing is can we forgive.  
It's not about big houses and lots of land.  
It's all about lending someone a helping hand.  
It's not about lots of money and greed  
It's all about giving to someone in need.  
It's not about big cars and lots of toys.  
It's all about love for orphans, little girls and boys.  
It's not about what can I gain.  
It's all about all the hurting and those in pain.  
It's not about me, myself, and I.  
It's all about really listening when I hear someone cry.  
It's not about dresses and fancy clothes I wear.  
It's all about the poor who have nothing to share.  
It's not about complaining of drugs and illicit sex.  
It's all about preventing our kids from making their lives wrecks.  
It's not about weather and global warming.  
It's all about giving those on a dangerous path a warning.  
It's not about Hillary or Obama.  
It's all about how we treat our pop and mama.  
It's not about politics and government.  
It's all about peace and contentment.  
It's not about all the mistakes of each other.  
It's all about how we talk and treat one another.  
It's not about flattery words and things we say.  
It's all about the times and how we pray.  
It's not about religion and traditions of man.  
It's all about Jesus in our heart and doing what we can.  
Let's take a look—have I left a mark.  
Did I lift someone today or leave them in the dark?  
We really don't have a lot of time to spare.  
Let's work together to show someone we care.  
Don't put off until tomorrow do it today.  
Spread some good news around and say what you need to say.  
We are His hands and His feet.  
So let's share His love to all that we meet.

Irene Fadeley



## **Next Step Center Work Day**

On February 13, sixteen volunteers helped at the Next Step Center located in Somerset. Some of the projects included insulating the attic and prepping the walls for paneling, painting the office and installing shelves.

Wesley Chapel missions also donated two twin beds with mattresses and two dressers which completed one of the five bedrooms and is now ready for guests.

The center provides emergency housing for Somerset County families and individuals, enabling them to work towards a resolution of issues that might have led to homelessness. The Center opened in 2003 and during that time has helped many families get a new start. Wesley Chapel missions will continue to help the Next Step Center in other projects that are needed to help maintain and improve the house.

Thanks to everyone who helped on this project.

*Food Pantry item  
for March  
is toothpaste.*

# Events Calendar

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Bible study 7 p.m.	3 Agape' 6 p.m.	4	5	6 Wild Game Dinner 6 p.m.
7 Choir 8:45 a.m. Conference/ Wesley Missions Offering Holy Communion Last day to sign up for snow tubing	8	9 Bible study 7 p.m.	10 Agape' Snow Tub- ing at Seven Springs 5:30 p.m.	11	12 AFM Orders 5—7 p.m.	13 AFM Orders 9—11 a.m.
14 Choir 8:45 a.m. Daylight Savings Time Begins One Great Hour of Sharing Easter flower orders due	15	16 Bible study 7 p.m.	17 Agape' 6 p.m.  Newsletter Deadline	18	19	20 AFM Distribution 8:30—9:30 a.m.
21 Choir 8:45 a.m. Building/Special Maintenance Of- fering	22	23 Bible study 7 p.m.	24 Agape' 6 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Choir 8:45 a.m.	29	30 Bible study 7 p.m.	31 Agape' 6 p.m.			

# Tender Hearts

Helping Children from  
Somerset County

## Tender Heart for February 2010

The "Tender Heart" for the month of February is a young lady from Somerset County who is celebrating her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. This Tender Heart is described as a very nice young lady with hopes of going to the military after graduation next year. She has very little contact with her family. The only time she sees her mother is in court, and the mother is not very nice to her.

Please keep this young lady in your thoughts and pray that she will be able to someday have a loving family and be able to experience the Love of God.

Each month a donation sheet with the information about the Tender Heart will be posted on the mission bulletin board. Along with the gift cards, a Bible will also be given to each young person as a reminder that Jesus loves him/her.

Please continue to pray for the Tender Heart program.

Thank you for supporting this Wesley Chapel mission.

Submitted by,  
Patty Miller, Missions



Our country and leaders, Supt. Frank Sherman, Bishop Tom Bickerton, Pastor Denton, Becky Brougher, Kevin McCormick, Jay King, Brenda Berchick, Arlen Sanner, Fred Klein, Alan Millin, Martha Crandall, John Fahrny, Allen Tubbs, Loretta Sechler, Cal/Jane Cramer, Cancer victims, Fred Will, Ed Berkebile, Dalton King, Josh Sadler, Karen Tressler, Darlene Stevanus, Ryan Schmuck, Amy Svonavec, Donna King, Melissa Trent, Matt Schwarm, Alan Jackson, Spencer Brougher & Bill Keller.

The family and friends of Mitch Hartman, Jim Lewis, Jack Banks, Ed Sanner, Fred Constantino & John Heist.



Charles Trimpey, Rex Temple, John King, Clyde Pletcher, Jr., John Fahrny, III, Michael Shultz, Shawn & Holly Stene, Denton Lester, Jr., Jason Miller, Jake McCrory, Jake Johnson, Jamie Miller, Brooke Bigler, David Rogers, Randy Pritts, Scott Opfer, Richard King, Daniel Waechter & their families.

**T**he Salvation Army would like to thank you for your monetary donation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Without your kindness we wouldn't be able to assist so many needs in our community. Thank you.

If God is your co-pilot,  
swap seats!

# Snow Tubing at Seven Springs

Please consider joining the Agape children and their families  
for a fun night of snow tubing at Seven Springs!!

- When:** Wednesday, March 10th
- Where:** Meet at Seven Springs at 5:30 - The snow tubing session is from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Cost:** \$5.00 for adults age 12 and up. Money and waiver form are due at time of sign up. (The church will pay the cost for any child involved in Agape.)
- Last Date for sign up:** March 7th

**YOU MUST SIGN A WAIVER FORM PRIOR TO THAT EVENING AND LET CHRISTINE KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING AND HOW MANY WILL BE ATTENDING.**

We hope to see you at Seven Springs for TONS OF FUN!!!





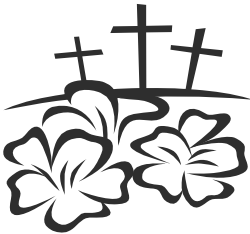
## Birthdays & Anniversaries This Month!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Kara Reed Sharon Pletcher Dustin Ohler Michelle Henry Jim Walter	2 Sydney Henry Hunter Berkey	3 Nancy Bungard	4 Brook Dankenbring	5 Michael Henry	6
7 *Brandon & Kara Reed	8 Karen Worona	9 Tim Pletcher Lloyd Struckoff, Jr. Leora King Richard Miller	10 Brandon Pletcher Jenna Miller	11 Matt Pletcher Beth Pletcher Brooke Pletcher	12 Joshua Bungard *Gregg & Joyce Henry	13
14 Jill Heiple	15 Maddox Sanner	16	17 Caleb Schmuck	18	19	20
21 Bryce Henry Dave Steele	22	23 Melinda Singo	24 Robin Rush Charlotte Pletcher	25 Perry King Harold Pritts	26 Tom Pritts Connie Pletcher	27 Carter Shaulis Kenzie Schroyer
28 Jeremy Singo	29 Ron Blough	30	31 Blaine Walter *Rex & Liisa Temple		*anniversary	

MARCH 2010

# Easter Flowers

*To the Glory of God"*  
*Help make the Sanctuary beautiful*  
*for Easter Sunday.*



This year we are placing an order for Easter flowers, which will be delivered to the church on April 2nd. If you would like to order flowers, place the order form along with payment in the basket on the table in the narthex.

You do not have to order flowers from the form. As in the past, you can still bring your own flowers to be displayed on Easter Sunday.

\*Hyacinths & \*Tulip

6 1/2"pot \$7.50

8"pot \$15.00

\*Mums

6 1/2"pot \$7.50

Lilies (white)

6"pot 1 Lilly \$7.50

8" pot 2 Lilies \$15.00

10" pot 3 Lilies \$25.00

Combination Pots (mixture of bulbs) \$30.00

*\*Growers will try to meet any color request, but cannot guarantee specific colors.*

**Due Date March 14, 2010**

Make checks payable to: Wesley Chapel UM Church

Payment is due when your order is placed.

# Fuel Assistance


Milford United Methodist Church has a fuel ministry that is offering \$100.00 to anyone who needs assistance purchasing fuel this winter.

If you know of anyone that could benefit from this ministry, please contact:

Dave McCall: 443-3362

Email—dmccall195@aol.com





We give thanks to the Lord for Rene & Leanne Temple answering the Lord's call to "head up" our VBS this summer. It will be held July 19—23, 2010. Please mark your calendars and start saving your pennies. As always, lots of help will be needed. Please begin praying about how YOU can help with this vital children's ministry. Watch for more info in the bulletin/newsletter.

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## The Chapel Messenger

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Her beaded braids playfully danced around her smiling face, painting a picture of all that childhood should be. Laughter, joy, and innocence. Keisha\* walked with us, wearing Erica's gloves to keep her hands warm since she had no gloves of her own. Holding Erica's now bare hand, they stopped at other apartment's along the way to invite her friends to come hear a Bible story at the Community Center. "You're the best," she told Erica, throwing her arms around her in a hug. "No, you're the best," she replied. Back and forth they went, until Erica concluded that "Jesus is the best," because "He loves you SO much!" Keisha paused for a moment, processing this idea she hadn't thought about before. "Yeah, Jesus is the best" she decided with a smile.

A few weeks later, I returned to this complex with Erica for Bible club. We stopped by Keisha's apartment so we could walk her and her siblings to the Community Center. While her mom put shoes and coats on each of her children, she told us that her kids might act out today. Trying to talk so that her children wouldn't hear or understand the news she was sharing, she told us that their father had been shot over the weekend. "They don't know. I told them their dad is very sick." I couldn't process what I was hearing. My heart broke for these children who'd never done anything to deserve the pain that violence and crime in the city had brought into their lives.

After leaving Keisha's apartment, a man with a big bag of candy was walking by. Keisha and her siblings recognized him and ran over to greet him. He gave them candy and asked them if they had eaten anything else that day. I don't know who exactly he was or what motivated him to reach out to these children, but I will tell you that something deep inside told me something wasn't right.

I don't know everything about Keisha's family, life, or background. I don't understand all the problems that children and families in the city face. But I do know that, as much as we wish it weren't true, there are many children in the city who are impacted by crime, violence, poverty, and many other issues as well. I know it's not a coincidence that God has placed me in Hartford, Connecticut's capital city. Since moving here just a few months ago, the needs of this city, and others like it across the state, have become more real to me than I know how to explain. Look at some of these Hartford statistics:

\*In 2006 Hartford (at 43.4 percent) had the sixth-highest child poverty rate in the nation among cities with populations exceeding 100,000.

\*Hartford has a 30.6% poverty rate, making it the second poorest city in the United States with a population of more than 100,000 people according to the 2006 national census.

\*According to the Barna research group, Hartford is among the top three unevangelized cities in the US.

If you follow the local news, you'll see that Hartford has its share of crime as well. And that's just one of Connecticut's cities. We also have cities like New Haven, Bridgeport, Waterbury, Stamford--and the list could go on--that are facing similar issues and needs.

These children in our cities face real issues, and they're looking for real answers. They'll find those answers somewhere. And the truth is, there *are* people building bridges in our cities--but most often, it's the man on the street with the big bag of candy, and not the Body of Christ.

I'll be the first person to admit that I don't have all of the answers. But what I do know is that our cities need believers who will decide to have beautiful feet. Believers who take the call to 'go' seriously--to share the love of Christ, to be His hands and feet, and to invest themselves in the lives of these children, their families and their communities.

"So how can I help?", you might be asking.

### Pray

Pray for children and families in the cities. Pray for local churches and believers who will see the need, catch the vision and invest as God tells them.

1. For wisdom for me and the CEF State Board to understand the best way to approach ministry in our cities, partnerships with churches, and how to move forward and build long-term.
2. For Christ Chapel New Testament Church in New Haven, who will be beginning a Good News Club in an urban area this coming March.
3. **Give**  
Finances, resources, contacts, knowledge or anything else that God tells you could be a help to CEF or children in the city.
4. **Go**  
Ask yourself, "Does God want me to personally invest myself into these children and their families?" And if He does, in what capacity? Organizational skills, teaching or helping in a Good News Club, serving on the Board, etc.

Children like Keisha are ready to believe that "Jesus is the best"... are we ready to do our part to go and tell them? He is the answer because He loves them "SO much!"

For Connecticut's Children,  
Rebecca Bowersox  
Ministry Development Coordinator/Teacher Trainer  
814-233-1484

[rebecca.bowersox@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.bowersox@gmail.com)

\*name changed

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# CHAPEL MESSENGER

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church

-Established in 1863-

(814) 926-2580 926-2226 (Parsonage)

Rev. Denton R. Lester



— INVITE — LEAD —  — NURTURE — SEND —

**Worship 9:30 a.m.      Sunday School 10:45 a.m.**

Prayer & Bible Study.....Tues. 7:00 p.m.

Agape'..... \*\*Wed. 6:00 p.m.

Choir.....Sun. 8:45 a.m.

*\*\*Does not meet April, May, June, July & August*

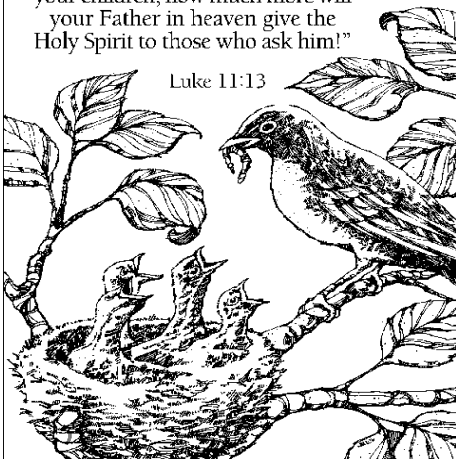
Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church  
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"If you then, though you are evil,  
know how to give good gifts to  
your children, how much more will  
your Father in heaven give the  
Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Luke 11:13



*March*  
2010