

# THE AMBASSADOR

February 2009

## Ordinary Day... Extraordinary Hero

The images are still at the forefront of my mind: a submerging plane in icy waters, shivering passengers awaiting rescue, arriving emergency personnel there to save lives, all part of the dramatic events of flight 1549 and what is being dubbed the “Miracle on the Hudson.”

It began as any ordinary day for this pilot and his crew. How many times must he have gone through the same pre-flight routine? Years of training have prepared him for the task always hoping for the best but also ready to expect the worst that flying might bring.

For Captain Chesley Sullenberger that day came. All his experience and expertise was needed to make split-second decisions that would ultimately save the lives of his passengers and crew. A part of the story being told now is of the pilot’s bravery, courage, sacrifice and humility to be sure that all those aboard would be brought to safety and out of harms way. On this ordinary day the echoes of Scripture were seen and heard and felt in a most incredible way:

*Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don’t think only about your own affairs but be interested in what others, too, and what they are doing.*

When I read these words and consider the actions of this pilot, I discover the truth of God’s Word made real for all to see. While I will never fly a plane, I do realize that God has offered me the privilege of co-piloting his church in this community toward his preferred future. What an awesome responsibility to think about how many lives I am entrusted with!

With such responsibility, I must remember that none of my days are ordinary. God can take the routine events of my calendar and allow them to be the means toward making someone around me an extraordinary hero, through a kind word, thoughtful deed, or a silent prayer.

You have that opportunity too. Whether it’s at your job, in your home, through your marriage, raising your family, serving your community, here at our church, or any number of countless ways – your ordinary day can make someone else an extraordinary hero! For wherever God puts you in the path of the people he loves, an opportunity for hero-making exists.

Think for just a moment and ask yourself if you’ve made someone else an extraordinary hero today. Here’s a little challenge: What might you say or do to make that happen today, each day this week, or this month. Multiply your singular efforts by everyone else who will read this article and the world will be very different! An ordinary day will never be quite the same again, because with God every day is an extraordinary day!

On God’s crew with you,

*Pastor Steve*

# Sermon Schedule: February 2009

## **February 1: Communion served at the Altar Rail.**

**Sermon Title: What Will We Do in Heaven?**

**Scripture: Revelation 19:1-10**

Heaven is not limited by any earthly constraints like we experience in this life. Without cares or worries, what will we do once we arrive in eternity. This passage clearly tells us that our one and only priority is to worship God in all his glory!

## **February 8:**

**Sermon Title: Are There Angels in the Outfield?**

**Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:35-50**

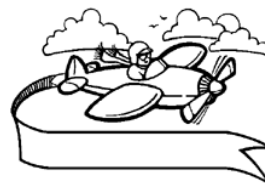
With each passing day your body is wearing out. Some limitations are sudden and others occur more gradually. In this letter, Paul tries to both describe and assure his readers of what our bodies will be like in eternity.

## **February 15:**

**Sermon Title: What if My Flight is Delayed?**

**Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10**

Paul gives even more of a description of our new bodies made especially for eternity. We discover that heaven is truly beyond our best days on earth. For of us awaiting this new life, what teaching does Paul offer the Corinthians and us?



## **February 22:**

**Sermon Title: The Applause of Heaven**

**Scripture: Hebrew 12:1-2**



Think for a moment about someone you know who has died leaving you to follow in the footsteps of their faith. Who brought you to know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? What picture does the writer of Hebrews paint for those who are in heaven now waiting for you?

# Youth Alive! 2009

Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life! John 14:6 We are Alive in Jesus!

- February 1 - No That Sunday Thing  
No Youth Alive
- February 8 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
Youth Alive, 6:30pm - **Gospel Journey Maui, 3**
- February 15 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
Youth Alive, 6:30pm - **Gospel Journey Maui, 4**
- February 22 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
**Melva, Jerry, and Delores' Diner, 5:30pm**  
**Game Night**
- February 28 - **Movie Night for Church - "Fireproof" - 6:00-8:30pm**  
**Bake Sale - Youth Fundraiser**  
**Babysitting will be provided**
- March 1 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
Youth Alive, 6:30pm - **Gospel Journey Maui, 5**
- March 8 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
Youth Alive, 6:30pm - **Gospel Journey Maui, 6**
- March 15 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
**Melva, Jerry, and Delores' Diner, 5:30pm**
- March 21 - **Youth Fundraiser - Dinner** before the Theater for the World play
- March 22 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
Youth Alive, 6:30pm - **Gospel Journey Maui, 7**
- March 29 - That Sunday Thing, 9:00am  
Youth Alive, 6:30pm - **Gospel Journey Maui, 8**
- April 5 & 12 - **No Youth Alive - Spring Break**

Events and dates may change so please check the weekly postcards for the most up-to-date information.

# Men's Group News

The Men's Group held our planning meeting in January and after much brainstorming (maybe more like a braindrizzle) we set our goals for the coming year. I think we have honed our niche and with Christ's guidance we will be even more successful in 2009.

## **Primary Goal:**

Action Oriented – serve Christ, our Church and local families and provide the men in our church multiple opportunities to volunteer in situations that suit their own skill sets and schedules. We understand that not everyone can attend every meeting. But by performing multiple service-oriented projects we give all our men a chance to give the time they can.

## **Upcoming Projects to Achieve Primary Goal:**

February 14<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – We invite all fathers and their sons & daughters to help us pack up care packages for college students and military members. Full breakfast provided – Pancakes with chocolate chips!!! Chocolate chipless pancakes will be available for fathers who are not adventurous. Moms get to sleep in. Set the alarm clocks for your husbands to make sure they get out the door with the kids.



If you would like to donate baked goods, candy, phone cards, prayers, trinkets, small games etc... for our care packages, please drop things off by Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> in the kitchen so we can prepare everything for mailing that day. There will also be a box downstairs for donations other than baked goods. We'd also welcome small boxes for shipping. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Ongoing – God has blessed all of us with talents and gifts. The men would like to share some of our handy skills with those in need. If any of our shut-ins, the church itself, other members, etc have a need **please contact the church office**. From there the men will coordinate small projects and the necessary workers.

We have projects and events planned for the entire year. God willing – we can achieve them. Watch the Ambassador and bulletins for ongoing updates.

Respectfully,

Jason Born



## ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP PLANNING

Are you interested in helping develop the future alternative worship service? If so, please join Pastor Steve on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. This planning meeting will be held at the church.

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**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
**Wednesday, February 25**  
**Watch for more details in your Sunday bulletins**  
**for time and location.**

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## XYZ - Extra Years of Zest



Calling all people **without** children - let's get together starting at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at the home of Cindy and Doug Box. Since this is our first meeting, we'll have some mixer games and other activities planned for the night. And of course, our theme will be Valentine's Day. Cupid has asked us to get baby pictures of all those who will be attending. Please call Cindy Box or Penny Greenlese and let us know if you will be able to join us. Look for more details in upcoming Sunday bulletins.

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### *Skating Party*

## FAMILY LIFE SKATING PARTY

Do you have the winter blues? Family life has a cure! Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 til 4:30 and be ready to roll with the strobe lights. Our church family will be having a skating party at Swanton Coliseum. We'll have the whole rink to ourselves so our skating abilities can remain anonymous! Please join us and bring friends if you wish. Non skaters are welcome and encouraged as most of us will need all the moral support we can get! Skate rental is \$2.50. If you wish to make a donation toward the rental of the coliseum please send it to Lisa Galton or the church office.

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## SCOUT SUNDAY

We will observe Scout Sunday on March 8<sup>th</sup> during the worship service, All Scouts (Girl Scouts, Brownies, Daisies, Eagles, Boy Scouts, cubs, Tiger Cubs, Webelos and leaders) are encouraged to attend in uniform and be honored.



## WOMEN'S NEWS



The **LUNCH BUNCH** will meet on Wednesday, February 18, at Cafe Marie on Dussel Dr., Maumee. Please join us at 12:45 p.m. for a wonderful lunch and great fellowship. If you need a ride or want more information, please contact Tehya Collinsworth at 419-878-8616. If Anthony Wayne schools are cancelled due to weather, we will also cancel.

### SCRAPBOOKING AND MORE...

Winter time blues got you down? Got cabin fever? We have just the good time to get you cheered up. Come join us on Wednesday, February 11, (a week later than usual) at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for an afternoon of girl talk and crafting. Bring whatever you want to work on or just come and join in the conversation. Hope to see you there!



**CALLING ALL WOMEN** – Women of Faith is coming to Columbus to share “A Grand New Day!” The event is April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and you can either attend two sessions on Friday beginning at 8:00 a.m. or only one beginning at 6:00 p.m. Anyone interested needs to contact Maggie Long (our hand bell director) at 567-674-4272 or [melong@bgsu.edu](mailto:melong@bgsu.edu), or the church office, so we may reserve hotels and begin planning a few fundraisers. More information about the event will be available shortly. Go to [www.womenoffaith](http://www.womenoffaith) for additional information.

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### Changed Life Seminar March 21

The 29th Annual Non-Denominational Changed Life Seminar will feature Dee Brestin, author, speaker, and in-depth Bible study teacher. Held at Emmanuel Baptist Church, March 21, 9- 2:45, the cost of \$25 includes breakfast muffins, beverages, and a wonderful box lunch. **Registration must be received by March 13**; please call or see Delores Young (878-8238) for registration materials. Several women have attended over the past years and return with renewed enthusiasm for God's Word, fellowship, and worship. The theme for this year's seminar is "The Friendships of Women- We are Sisters." Highly recommended by Dr. Dobson, Bill Hybels, Beth Moore, and Max Lucado, Dee uses powerful audio-visuals to enhance her presentations as well. **COME JOIN US** and be blessed.

## ADULT BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CLASSES

If you were not able to attend the Adult Bible Fellowship Classes in January, we have good news for you! Two of the classes, the NOOMA series and "In the Dust of the Rabbi" will be offered again beginning on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the office.



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To my wonderful church family,  
You truly do represent the church with the warm heart. So many things to thank you for. Pastor Steve for his prayers and his presence during those first difficult hours. To all of you for your calls and your cards. To the meals you brought to me. For your visits and your hugs. Each and everyone helped me through another day. Oh how I wish I could tell George of your caring and sharing but I'm sure he knows and he'd add his thanks to mine. God Bless You All, Margaret

Dear Waterville UMC,

Thank you so much for the generous gift I received on Christmas Eve. It was so nice to be remembered by you and I thank you for the privilege to direct the Kinder Choir. These boys and girls are so special and important to our future as they give their special gift of time and talent that they give unconditionally to all of us and to God's church. Gratefully, Barb Page



Dear Church of the Warm Heart,

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. However, words can't begin to express my thankfulness for all that you do for me and my family every day of the year. All of the prayers, food, and visits following Gordon's accident; all of the many prayer quilts you so generously provide at my granddaughter

Olivia's requests; the cards sent to perk up my mother's day; all of the letters and emails asking is there more you can do! You guys aren't just warmhearted—YOU ARE HOT!!! I hope each of you feel as blessed as we do at the Cox household. Thanks for everything, Diana



## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT THANK YOU

We survived another Parents' Night Out, I think. We had no casualties or missing in action, that's good. There were 27 children with 15 volunteers, trust me, we needed all 15 volunteers. It was a fun packed evening, with games, crafts, food and controlled chaos. I want to give a heart-filled thanks to the following who should be given the gold medal of honor for going beyond the call of duty. I cannot thank each of you enough that you gave your time and talents to make this Outreach Ministry possible. Thank you!!! Barb and Jim Page, Nancy and David Stafford, Jan and Larry Sheridan, Cathy Landis, Cindy Box, Cindy Nowak, Mary Williams, Ann Nightingale, Kelly Smith, Anna Smith, Lisa Galton and Penn Pritchett.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! Charlotte Pritchett

## STATISTICS

DATE	WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	MISSIONS	SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
December 28	131	\$6,560.00	\$ 40,045.00	\$180.00	20
January 4	136	2,374.00	1,665.00	45.00	28
January 11	127	3,102.00	617.00	0.00	12
January 18	146	4,995.00	210.00	20.00	22
January 25	178	2,769.00	1,355.00	335.00	25

## Finance Committee potluck Sunday, March 29th

The Finance Committee wants to keep you informed on our financial situation. Mark your calendars now for a potluck on Sunday, March 29th after the worship service to be combined with a financial update.

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We received the following letter from the Conference Treasurer, dated January 12, 2009:

*Dear Rev. Rath,  
Thank you for leading the Waterville United Methodist Church in the 100% payment of their 2008 conference apportionments. As the nation's economy slows down, your faithful stewardship is especially appreciated. By your gifts you supported an orphanage in the Congo and the U.M. Children's Home in Worthington; you built new churches in West Ohio and Russia; and you made disciples of Jesus Christ around the world. May the Lord continue to bless your ministry.*

*R. Stanley Sutton, Conference Treasurer*



**Recently  
Hospitalized**

Marilyn Simpson  
Brian Snyder



*Our  
Heartfelt  
Sympathy  
to:*

Dave Landis and family upon the death of his mother, **Elizabeth Anne Landis**, who passed away January 7, in Lincoln, Nebraska;

Bill Plassman and family upon the death of his mother, **Joan Plassmann**, who passed away January 8.

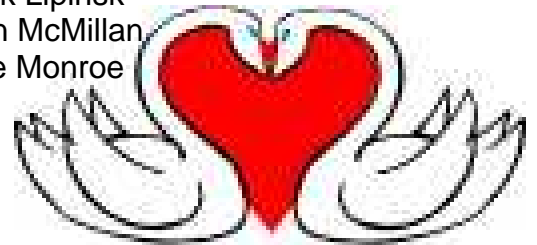


# February

## 2009 Birthdays

### DAY ADULTS

1	Jeff Monroe	13	Bonne Spychalski
1	Bill Parker	13	Geoffrey Stafford
2	Kyle Galton	14	Bill Martin
3	Loraine Welker	19	Jason Born
5	Arthur Meade	19	Robert Stearns
8	John Henry	20	Sue George
8	John Rose	20	Ron Hood
9	Amy Plassmann	21	Sue Deardurff
11	Cathy Landis	24	Lucile Young
11	Olga Meade	26	Frank Lipinsk
13	Rev. James Caldwell	27	Brian McMillan
13	Bob Hires, Jr.	27	Katie Monroe



DAY	YOUTH
2	Rebekah Deardurff
4	Betsy Martin
16	Jennifer Doyle
19	Ty Henry
27	Katie Martin
29	Eryn Doyle





# Scripture and Prayer Calendar

## Prayer Works



### Scripture

### FEB

### Prayer

Exodus 13 & 14	Mark 4	<b>1</b>	The Kyle Galton Family
Exodus 15 & 16	Mark 5	<b>2</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Dick George
Exodus 17 & 18	Mark 6	<b>3</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Rob Greenlese
Exodus 19 & 20	Mark 7	<b>4</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Gregory
Exodus 21 & 22	Mark 8	<b>5</b>	The Bill Gregory, Jr. Family
Exodus 23 & 24	Mark 9	<b>6</b>	The Phillip Gribble Family
Exodus 25 & 26	Mark 10	<b>7</b>	Mr. Drew Grogan
Exodus 27 & 28	Mark 11	<b>8</b>	Ms. Brittany Hale
Exodus 29 & 30	Mark 12	<b>9</b>	Mr. Henry Hanzl
Exodus 31 & 32	Mark 13	<b>10</b>	Mr. Ron Hart
Exodus 33 & 34	Mark 14	<b>11</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Donald Harter
Exodus 35 & 36	Mark 15	<b>12</b>	Mr. & Mrs. George Hayes
Exodus 37 & 38	Mark 16	<b>13</b>	The Shirley Heimrich Family
Exodus 39 & 40	Luke 1	<b>14</b>	The John Henry Family
Leviticus 1 & 2	Luke 2	<b>15</b>	Mrs. Phyllis Henry
Leviticus 3 & 4	Luke 3	<b>16</b>	Mrs. Shirley Hiles
Leviticus 5 & 6	Luke 4	<b>17</b>	Mrs. Sharon Hill
Leviticus 7 & 8	Luke 5	<b>18</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hires
Leviticus 9 & 10	Luke 6	<b>19</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hires, Jr.
Leviticus 11 & 12	Luke 7	<b>20</b>	The Justin Hires Family
Leviticus 13 & 14	Luke 8	<b>21</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Ron Holland
Leviticus 15 & 16	Luke 9	<b>22</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Ron Hood
Leviticus 17 & 18	Luke 10	<b>23</b>	The Kevin Jakubowski Family
Leviticus 19 & 20	Luke 11	<b>24</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Thad Jones
Leviticus 21 & 22	Luke 12	<b>25</b>	The Eric Kahl Family
Leviticus 23 & 24	Luke 13	<b>26</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kahl
Leviticus 25-27	Luke 14	<b>27</b>	Mrs. Twig King
Numbers 1 & 2	Luke 15	<b>28</b>	The Chris Kirby Family



**For great is your love, reaching to the heavens;  
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.-- Psalm 57:10**



Following each daily Scripture Reading are the names of the families and individuals for our daily prayer list. Please read your Bible and pray for these persons for the month of February. If you have a prayer request, please feel free to call the Prayer Chain: Pam Plassmann 419-878-9432 or e-mail [plassmb@accesstoleado.com](mailto:plassmb@accesstoleado.com): Mary Williams 419-878-5554 or e-mail [margewill@toast.net](mailto:margewill@toast.net).







**Written by: Lane Palmer**  
**Position: Youth Ministry Specialist**  
**Answers the question: *Is the Bible really God's Word, and does it really relate to my life?***

One Sunday morning, while sitting next to her first grade daughter in church, a mom noticed her daughter was looking intently at the open Bible in her lap. In a low whisper, she asked, "Did God really write that?" the mom quietly whispered back, "Yes, He did." Looking down at her mother's Bible again, the little girl said in amazement, "Wow! He really has neat handwriting!"

Do you have neat handwriting? 'They' say that neat handwriting is a sign of a neatly ordered life...which means that I'm in a boatload of trouble. My handwriting looks like the attempts of a dizzy two year old with a dull crayon. I'm not kidding - there are doctors who laugh at my handwriting. So if what 'they' say is true, my life must be sloppily ordered.

And, well, it is. Which is OK as long as it doesn't hurt others...which sometimes it does. The sloppiness gets ugly sloppy when it's brought on by sin (i.e. disobeying God).

Perhaps that is true with you as well? No matter what your handwriting looks like, when you let sin creep into your life, it will eventually scribble shame and sadness all over the scene of your life and the lives of others.

Which is why I'm so glad God has neat handwriting. He wrote this book called The Bible (actually it's a collection of 66 books-more on that later), and the 'neatness' goes way beyond the look of the letters to the source of the words. The source of the words of the Bible is none other than God Himself:

*All Scripture is inspired by God... (2 Timothy 3:16).*

The word 'inspired' literally means "God breathed," and the word picture is one of God breathing the very words into the minds and through the pens of the authors. Some folks like to think that God just 'inspired' the ideas or concepts in the Bible. I am not one of them. Sure, he used the different styles and personalities of the writers, but the end result is God's word, word for word.

But Lane, couldn't *anyone* write a book and put in something like "in case you're wondering, God wrote this..."-so why do I believe that only the Bible is God breathed and not the Koran, the Book of Mormon, or any other "God told me this stuff" book? Simple...because the proof is in the pages. No other work is a collection of 66 books written by 40 completely different authors living on three continents over a period of 1500 years and contains no errors or contradictions. And *as if* that weren't evidence enough, all 66 books containing 774,746 words all tie into one overarching theme: salvation through Jesus Christ.

Speaking of Jesus Christ, the Bible contains over 300 prophecies about Him which were written hundreds of years before He was born and were all literally and completely fulfilled in His lifetime.

Like I said...the proof is in the pages...and because it is, I need to let those God breathed words breathe back into my sloppy life:

*All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right. It is God's way of preparing us in every way, fully equipped for every good thing God wants us to do. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

What Paul is saying here is-don't let God's breath go to waste. The Bible was written by the true God, which means His words are truth, and they are truly the only way to 'desloppify' our sin-stained lives. Breathing in the breath of God is an exercise in letting Christ bring order into my chaos and setting me on the path that will bring me the most amazing joy and fulfillment possible.

I think that's pretty neat...don't you?

## **Head: What you need to know about this truth**

The Bible is a collection of 66 'God breathed' books and as such is God's word, word for word.

## **Heart: What you need to feel about this truth**

It is said that some years ago a vessel sailing on the northern coast of the South American continent was observed to make signals of distress. When hailed by another vessel, they reported themselves as "Dying for water!"

*"Dip it up then," was the response. "You are in the mouth of the Amazon river."*

There was fresh water all around them, and they had nothing to do but to dip it up, and yet they were dying of thirst because they thought themselves surrounded by sea water. The Bible is the only source of truth you'll ever have or need, knowing this

should make you feel incredibly privileged and incredibly responsible to not only quench your thirst for truth, but the thirst of a dying world!

## **Hands: What you need to do about this truth**

Someone once said: An unread Bible is like food uneaten, a love letter never read, a buried sword, a road map unstudied, gold never mined. Instead of thinking "I guess I'll go read my Bible now...", think of it as an opportunity to share in a