

FULL DIMENSION MINISTRY: TANZANIA

*“When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none,
And their tongue is parched with thirst; I the Lord will answer them...
For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground;
I will pour my spirit upon your descendants.... Isaiah 41:17, 44:3*

This year (July 1st) will mark my 30th year serving the United Methodist Church as an ordained clergy. That milestone was very much on my mind as I prepared to join Sue Blouin and Jerry Warren for a trip to the Yullansoni Valley in Tanzania to the site of Full Dimension Ministry.

In my journal a couple of days before we left I had written: “I desire to continue the next years of my active ministry ‘not all dried up’ but having gone once again to the well... to the living waters of my salvation... that I may be filled to the brim with hope. Pour your living water upon the one who is thirsty O God... revive me once again”! Oh how often our spirits... be it the church or its members... become a thirsty land.... Return me again to the water of my baptism... the living water... that I may be soaked in God’s love and hope.

Some asked: “Why not just send the money it cost you to travel”... Wouldn’t that help the people more?” Good question... I even asked this myself. However, the answer became very clear. Money is not always what others need... or what we ourselves need! To be in relationship with others, to work with each other to work side by side... to worship and sing and pray together... to laugh and play... is not the same as only sending money... so in the name of Wesley UMC we were able to put faces to your prayers and dollars... to be with the people.... this I believe is God’s desire.

I had no idea how much the image of water would become such a symbol of life and hope in Tanzania. Whether it was at the medical clinic or the preschool, whether it was a young man grateful for the Microfinance grant he received to irrigate his garden.... The water starved Yullanoni Valley is a place of hope for so many. Because of folks like you (Wesley UMC) FDM will continue to harvest water... will rejoice as a well is drilled (let us pray there will be water), and the preschool children will be able to wash their hands, have water to drink, and water for a day when they can have lunch or breakfast at the mission site. Full Dimension Ministry is partnering with Living Water International to drill a well. This well will be the first source of safe water for approximately 2,000-3,000 people. The Dorcas Circle of Wesley sent \$1,100 for this project!

Jerry, Sue and I will set a time to tell more of the story we shared in....watch for the date! An African Proverb says: “If you want to go fast travel alone. But if you want to go far, travel together.” Thanks for traveling with us.

Pastor Vicki

PRAYERS, CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

LET US PRAYER FOR...

- ✠ Elaine Dunn, hospitalized, receiving chemo
- ✠ Ann Burrows' father, Bill Taylor, hospitalized last week.
- ✠ Brother Charles in the hospital in Ghana
- ✠ For all our college students as they finish finals and look for summer jobs.
- ✠ For our Confirmands as they journey the final weeks to their Confirmation on May 31st

SYMPATHY TO....

- ✠ Barbara & Dave Crocker and family following the death of her mother, Mildred Benson on Sunday, May 11th. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 16th at 2 pm here at Wesley.
- ✠ Tom Banks and family on the death of his father Robert Banks on May 2nd.
- ✠ Vivian Assie on the death of her mother, Augustine Amoni, in Ghana.
- ✠ Joana Boahemaa Manu, daughter of Ohene Manu, who passed away in Ghana on April 17th after a short illness.

CONGRATULATIONS TO....

- ✠ Kurt & Stacey Carlson, on the birth of their twins, Travis Cole and Alexis Rose on May 7th. Early arrival but doing well. Grandparents, Paul and Linda Carlson, aunt Lori, uncle Matt, cousin Zachary Conlon .
- ✠ Jeanne and Dileep Dhavale on the birth of their granddaughter Lydia last Sunday.
- ✠ Brad Jansson graduating May 16, Bentley University, Bachelor of Science, Finance

LIGHTINGS AND ALTAR FLOWERS

THE ROSE WINDOW lighting for May is given in loving memory of Dorothy Aho by Nancy Aho, Heidi O'Leary and family.

THE TOWER lighting for May is given in loving memory of my mother, Mary Fletcher and my brother, David Fletcher by Barbara Fletcher.

SANCTUARY ALTAR FLOWERS on Sunday, May 24th are given in loving memory of our faithful friend Fenway by Emily Smith, Shelby, Megan, Bridget, Brian and Matthew Looney.

OUTSIDE FLOWER PLANTERS... There are 3 planters outside the church doors which are available for dedication for that special someone. If you are interested, the cost is \$30 per planter. The dedication is for the spring, summer and fall. Please call the church office and speak with Debi or Pastor Lisa. Thank you.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

STATEMENTS

Statements were mailed last Friday, May 8, for contributions to the General Fund and others for the period of January 1 to April 30, 2009. In addition, a separate statement was included for those who have made contributions to the Capital Campaign this year, or who have a remaining balance. If your capital campaign contribution was paid in full by December 31, 2008, you will no longer receive a statement for this fund.

UPDATE ON CAPITAL PROJECTS – PHASE 1

I am happy to report that all three projects in Phase 1 have been completed. This included the installation of 6 new skylights and a new flat roof on various parts of the church roof, installation of a lightning protection system, and, recently, the completion of the masonry repairs and application of seal-coating to the exterior trim from the front Tower to the rear Te Deum window. It is wonderful to see how beautiful the church looks, and to know we have significantly reduced the risk of damage to the organ, as well as eliminating the infiltration of water through the old skylights. People can now safely walk around the building without the fear of crumbling masonry falling on them! Thanks to all who have contributed to the campaign, enabling this work to be done!! The total cost for all three projects came to \$485,547.32.

NEW MEMBER CLASS TO BEGIN...

Those interested in learning more about the United Methodist Church or becoming a member of Wesley are invited to attend two New Member Classes, Sunday morning, June 14 and 21 at 9:30 a.m. in Mary Ellis Lounge. We will receive New Members in worship on June 28. Talk to one of the pastors if you are interested!

BLANKET SUNDAY THANK YOU...

This past Sunday, Chris Flagg invited the children to help collect a special offering to benefit Church World Service, who reaches out to people in times of need and disaster. Through the generosity of the church, we raised \$644.50 to help those in need.

SEWING KITS DEDICATED...

We also dedicated 48 Sewing Kits collected by the Rebecca Circle and the UMW to be sent through the United Methodist Committee on Relief to women and children in need. Thank you for your care and concern for others!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...

Come this Sunday, May 17, to Sunday School~ calling all Sunday School children to be present today and part of a special quilt project, that will be presented on “Children & Youth Celebration Sunday”, June 21, during the 10:30 service. Each child will be given a fabric square to create a special faith message! Please don’t miss this group activity to create a beautiful keepsake that reflects all our children and youth and will truly be a blessing for all of us! **See you at 9:30 AM in Wagner Hall, 3rd floor!**

Rolling Ridge summer camp requires all applications be submitted by May 31st! All families with children and youth who have completed Grade 3 through Grade 12 are invited to their summer program “BREAKTHROUGH.” Please visit their website for more information and registration materials, www.rollingridge.org. Please make sure completed applications are given to Valerie before May 31st for scholarships!

Please mark your calendars:

- ~ **Sunday, June 21, “Children & Youth Celebration Sunday”** 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM church service – A time of celebration! We will celebrate the children and youth sharing their gifts as they lead us in worship through God’s word, prayer, music, song and dance. **We will also recognize and celebrate our graduates!** On this day, each child will receive a beautiful flower after church, *given in memory of Cynthia Sperl Jones, who loved children!*
- ~ **Sunday, August 2 – Wednesday, August 5... VBC!** *“Camp E.D.G.E.” Experience & Discover GOD Everywhere!*

~ Valerie Jansson

STANDUP FOR KIDS 24 HOURS ON THE STREET!

On April 24th volunteers set up camp on the front lawn of Wesley Church. We began the evening with a candlelight vigil in memory of the 13 children that die on the streets every day. We helped to raise awareness about Youth Homelessness by talking with the 350 people who walked by our camp over the next 24 hours... and we met 33 kids! Some kids took outreach cards, some took food and some just wanted someone to listen to them.

Thank you to all Wesley Church members who donated food and drinks throughout the event and also to all those who have prayed for our Volunteers and the Children we meet. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

God Bless, Chris Flagg

CARTY CUPBOARD IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS!!!

Would you like to help those in need? Do you have some free time Wednesday afternoons or Friday Mornings? Can you lift a grocery bag full of food?

Then Carty Cupboard is the place for you!

OR

Do you have a large vehicle or van and can you lift heavy boxes? Do you have one day a week free once a month to do a pick-up at the Worcester County Food Bank located on Rte 9 in Shrewsbury?

Then Carty Cupboard is the place for you!

OR

Do you or your family have some time during the week this summer? Would you or a family member, (kids 8 and up can help too), like to pack the bags that we distribute to our clients on Fridays?

Then Carty Cupboard is the place for you!

The People who volunteer at Carty Cupboard are a kind, giving, great bunch of folks to work with. If you would like to volunteer you will have the added benefit of meeting new people or just getting to see good friends more often, as well as having the satisfaction of knowing that you are taking an active role in the fight against hunger. Please call Nancy Spencer @ 508-886-6376 to help. Thank You!!

THE FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE UPDATE

~ 2009 ~

Dear Folks of Wesley,

I have GREAT news! Thanks to your wonderful food donations Carty Cupboard has had it's best year since we have been participating in the Feinstein Challenge! We received a generous amount of monetary donations (\$2,466.00), but it was the donated food (5,665 food items) that put us over the top!! This is very important as we have seen an increase in new families and single people seeking food assistance. In April 2009 we served 66 new families and singles, up 50% from April 2008. Please know that the clients that come to Carty Cupboard are very grateful for all the support that we give to them. *Thank You All* so much for your kindness.

Sincerely,
Nancy Spencer

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The **UMW COMBINED CIRCLE MEETING** will be held on Thursday, June 18, at 6:30 p.m. in Brewer Hall. Emily Smith is coordinating the potluck. Circle Leaders are asked to contact her regarding the dishes that their members plan to bring to the potluck. Also, on that evening we will be planning next year's programs, so be sure to bring in your dates for events occurring from Sept. 1, 2009, to Sept. 1, 2010. Thank you. The annual brochure will be printed according to the dates given. More information will be forthcoming regarding the exciting program planned for that evening! Please mark your calendar and be sure to attend.

PLEASE NOTE: The meeting of the UMW Steering Committee originally scheduled for Saturday, June 6, will be postponed.

Thank you, Margaret Watson

CIRCLES

DORCAS CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, May 21st at noon at the home of Chloe Sundberg. This is our annual potluck lunch and planning meeting. Bring your "dish" and your ideas. We will also be making our beaded book marks – cost \$5.00. See you there "beads on." Any questions call Emily Smith at 508-886-8950.

PRISCILLA CIRCLE... We will meet on Tuesday, May 19th at Tweeds Restaurant on Grove Street, Worcester at 6:00pm. For lots of fellowship, come join us. Please let Anne Burrow's know your intention, 508-829-4008.

FINANCE COMMITTEE CELEBRATES YARD SALE AND OTHER FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The Finance Committee continues to give thanks and offer praise to God for so many who have stepped forward with vision and prayer to support our 2009 budget. Under the leadership and vision of Dot Ellis members of the church worked many hours (with fun and relationship building happening all along the way) to earn \$4,700. This all church project is a sign of how so many are taking serious our call to be good stewards toward supporting our church budget. Dot has said that items not sold at the yard sale have been an additional blessing to our Carty Cupboard friends. Also a big thanks to Val Jansson and the Sunday School children for their leadership in our first Mini Harvest which raised \$2,000 toward our Harvest Commitment.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The **NEW ENGLAND UMM** is holding a Conference on Saturday, May 16th at the Asbury UMC in Warwick, Rhode Island from 2:30-9:00 pm; we hope to have Wesley UMM well represented; we will travel by auto leaving Wesley at 1:00 pm and returning about 10:00 pm. David Adams, President of National UMM will be the featured speaker. If interested in attending call George Proulx at 508-791-8873 or email him at progeo@charter.net.

UMM and Sarah Circle of UMW are **COLLECTING USED CELL PHONES**. The cell phones are being donated to Males Advocating Change (MAC) who are collecting them for the Rape Crisis Center of Central Massachusetts (RCCCM); Women seeking assistance from the center will be provided with a cell phone for use in emergencies. These can be dropped off at the church office.

The **SECOND ANNUAL TRIP TO WRIGHT'S FARM** has been scheduled for Sunday May 17th leaving Wesley at 12 Noon with a reservation for 1:00 pm dinner. This year's trip will be an auto caravan to eliminate the cost of a bus and driver. The cost is again \$15 per person including tax & tip (\$10 for children ages 3-10), payable when you sign up.

The second annual **WESLEY NIGHT AT THE TORNADOES** has been scheduled for 7:05 pm on Friday, June 19th. (The Tornadoes vs. the Quebec Capitales Game.) Once again the price of tickets is a low, low \$5 per person. These tickets will also be sold in Brewer Hall.

Thank You, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Very Fancy Tea Party such a wonderful day for all 80 of the Very Fancy Ladies who attended. Our "Tea room" looked beautiful with all of your borrowed tea cups and tea pots and everyone enjoyed all of the Very Fancy desserts that so many of you baked.

We would also like to extend a very special Thank You to some awesome helpers, Victoria Gibbs who helped our Very Fancy Young Ladies at the crafts and Jewelry tables and our Wait-staff, Isaac Berko, Landon Cass and Levi Cass who made sure that everyone had all of the tea and fancy desserts that they wanted.

Sincerely,

Chris Flagg, Sue Proulx, Martha Vigeant

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN STEP UP AGAIN!

The Wesley United Methodist Women deserve words of appreciation for all they have accomplished for Wesley in recent months. The UMW pledged \$10,000 to help balance Wesley's 2009 budget; \$4,800 designated from the Isabel Smith Endowment Fund to support Mission Shares and other mission expenses, and \$5,200 to be earned through fundraisers.

UMW held an Easter bake sale which netted over \$600, and a highly successful tea party (through Chris Flagg's leadership) which 80 people attended. UMW also does the work for many of the *Pipes Alive!* Concert Luncheons. This past Sunday, in honor of Mother's Day, they extended their outreach to provide blankets through the ministry of Church World Service. These are only a few of the many things the women of our church do. Thank you, UMW! We so appreciate all you do within the church and beyond.

Pastor Vicki

Did You Know?

Most United Methodists at some point or another have heard the story of the conversion experience of John Wesley when he felt his heart "strangely warmed" as he attended a mid-week evening society meeting and heard commentary on a passage from Romans.

Did you know that the anniversary of this event occurs during the month of May? It was on May 24, 1738 that this pivotal experience confirmed for John Wesley the reality of his salvation through Christ. He subsequently went on to become the founder of Methodism. The meeting place where this profound spiritual awakening occurred was on Aldersgate Street in London. For this reason the event is known as Wesley's "Aldersgate experience" and the date is often commemorated in the Methodist tradition as Aldersgate Day. After the Aldersgate experience John began using imagery of heat and fire to describe his new-found condition. It is thus no surprise that the official insignia of the United Methodist Church incorporates the symbolism of fire in the familiar Cross and Flame emblem. In the Christian tradition in general the flame first and foremost is a symbol of the Holy Spirit given at Pentecost but it also has a special significance for our denomination as a reminder of John Wesley's Aldersgate experience.

Submitted by, Deborah A. O'Driscoll

9TH ANNUAL SUNDBERG MEMORIAL CONCERT

The 9th Annual Sundberg Memorial Concert will take place on Friday, May 29, at 7:30 PM. Two young rising stars from this area will be here to dazzle you with their talent. Organist Wesley Hall and pianist Mackenzie Melemed will perform both solo works and pieces for piano and organ together. The concert is free and open to the public, so invite some friends along. Please save the date, as you will not want to miss hearing these two young musicians!

AIDS LIFE CYCLE 8

For the second time now, I will be riding in the AIDS LifeCycle, a 7-day, 545-mile bicycle ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles. It's hard to adequately describe what a massive event this is: last year, we were 2,500 cyclists strong with about 600 support crew. Together we raised \$11.6 million, making it the largest AIDS fundraiser in the country.

Each rider pledges to raise \$3,000 in order to ride. If you are able to join me in the AIDS LifeCycle through your sponsorship, I would be grateful for all contributions, large and small. The best way to donate is online at: www.tofighthiv.org/goto/brettmaguire. You will find a link to contribute underneath my photo. If you would rather write a check, please call me at the church: (508-799-4191).

Thank you so much; I appreciate your support!

~ Brett

2009 HERALD SCHEDULE

Below are the next couple of Herald mailing dates along with the deadline dates for each mailing.

Please note that the deadline date is Monday at 9:00 AM unless otherwise specified.

Article Deadline Date	Herald Mailing Date
Tues., May 26	Thurs., May 28
Mon., June 8	Wed., June 10

If you have an article, please email it as a Word attachment to:

office@wesleychurchworchester.org



**Please join us from
9:30-11:00 a.m.**

MAY 15TH

Dealing with Conflict

JUNE 5TH

Final Brunch



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Vicki Woods and Lisa Bruget-Cass

Director of Music Ministries

Brett Maguire

Director of Children's Choirs

Leslie McBrayer

Ghanaian Choir Master

Charles Ato Brown

Music Assistant

Deborah O'Driscoll

Sunday School Superintendent

Valerie Jansson

Building Superintendent

Phil Johnson

Business Administrator

Lorna Mattus-Merrill

Church Secretary

Debi Ritacco

Custodians

Mark & Carol Flionis and Gerard Piscitelli

Assistant Custodian

Steve Boyns

Administrative Council

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Lay Members Annual Conference

Mary Beth Dziewietin and Johnnell Demery

Medical Ministry

Ron Ramsay

Membership & Evangelism

Gary & Renelle Picard

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Carolyn Bellil

Mission Coordinator

Jerry Warren

Music & Worship

Tim & Leslie McBrayer

Staff-Parish Relations

Janet M. Maguire

Youth Group

Phil & Emily Smith

**Wesley United Methodist Church
114 Main Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01608**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WESLEY HERALD

MAY 13, 2009

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