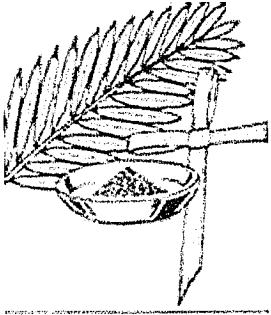

Hope Church Newsletter—February 2010



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 17—7:00 P.M.

Lenten Service starting Wednesday, February 24

6:15 p.m. - Potluck

7:00 p.m. — Study

River Bend Nature Center's Annual Winterfest is scheduled for Sunday, February 7 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. This is an event celebrating winter that all ages will enjoy with many fun activities for the whole family. The cost is FREE for members and \$6 per person for non-members. Horse-drawn sleigh rides, crafts, use of kick sleds, snow snakes, sledding, winter stories and more. Snowshoe rentals will be available throughout the afternoon. Food and refreshments will also be available.

Habitat for Humanity

Breakfast fundraiser

Sunday, February 21

Serving from 8:30—12:30 p.m.

American Legion in Faribault

Omelets (made to order), seasoned potatoes, cinnamon rolls, juice, coffee and milk

\$7/adult — \$4/ages 3-10 — Free/ages 2 & Under

All proceeds go to Rice County
Habitat for Humanity

Rice County Food Shelf "Food of the Month"

January—Soup

February—Beans-canned or dry

March—tuna

April—Peanut Butter

May—Pasta

June—Pancake Mix and syrup

July—crackers

August—cereal

September—boxed potatoes/Mashed etc.

October—canned fruit and fruit juice

November—canned vegetables

December—rice

"Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distress of everyone, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse."

George Washington

Haiti Updates

Hope has given \$860 to Haiti Earthquake Relief. Simply give by noting "Haiti Relief" in the memo section of your check or on your offering envelope.

United Methodists have given over \$1,000,000 to relief in Haiti in the first two weeks following the quake.

UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, has an A+ rating from non-profit watchdog agencies for its "effectiveness" and "efficiency." Remember 100% of your gift goes directly to relief. Admin. Costs are already paid via apportionments. You may also give directly to UMCOR at www.UMCOR.org. Once on the UMCOR site at the top right of your screen you'll find

CURRENT EMERGENCIES — HOW TO HELP — Haiti Emergency UMCOR Advance #418325

Click on the red "Give now" to give monetarily. Also, a myriad of other ways of helping out are presented at the site—as well as news updates.

FOCUS update

Free Our Church – Understanding Stewardship

The 3 year capital campaign to pay down the Hope Church loan continues. Even in these uncertain economic times 19 households have responded indicating they will give at total of \$15,764 beyond their regular giving in 2010. Our goal is \$33,333.33/yr. for three years—or \$100,000 extra toward loan paydown. Every gift above and beyond will make a difference. The less financial pressure, the more Hope Church will be able to FOCUS on intentional ministry within and beyond the doors of the church. Thanks to all who have responded and for those who are continuing to pray over your giving. May the Lord bless your desire to engage in faithful living—love God with all your heart and neighbor as yourself

Prayers for: Logan a friend of Julie Carlson ; Chris Kluge; Josh Grambart's cousin; Brandon Miller dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder; those involved in the accident on HWY 60; Church that burned down and was a previous parish of Pastor Roger and Chele; Chele Grafensteins's niece; Haiti people and those helping restore their country

Continued Prayers for: Karen Tesch recovering at home from a stroke; our soldiers and their families; those going through cancer treatments

Prayers for those unable to worship with us: Veva Sutter; Deloris Wesley

Pray, and let God worry. -- Martin Luther

REJOICING AND CELEBRATING ...the birth of Liam Larson

Hope United Methodist Church

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Faribault, MN 55021

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Lesson in employee relationship—TRUE STORIES

Steve Cleary was in his early 50's, retired and had started a second career. However, he just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. However, he was a good worker, really clever, so the owner was in a quandary about how to deal with it. Finally, one day he called Steve into the office for a talk.

'Steven, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a top class job, but you're being late so often is quite a worry.'

'Yes, I realize that, sir, and I am working on it.' replied Steve.

'I'm pleased to hear that, you are a team player. It's odd though, you're coming in late. I know you're retired from the Royal Navy. What did they say if you came in late there?'

'They said, "Good morning, Admiral".'

Burglars Lock Owner in Coffin

A report from ALMATY in Kazakhstan (Reuters) - Burglars locked the funeral parlour employee in a coffin and kept him there unconscious while searching for cash and valuables in the shop.

Serik Sarsenbayev said he was my himself late at night when two masked burglars burst into the funeral parlour and beat him until he fainted.

The thieves then stuffed him into a wooden coffin and nailed it closed. What they were after was his money safe. The unusual robbery happened in the steppe town of Temirtau near Almaty in Kazakhstan central Asia.

Serik was only freed when the driver of the parlour's hearse came into work.

The thieves made away with \$23,000 (13,000 pounds) and have not yet been caught.