

### In Our Prayers

- Jolie Prentice's grandfather, stroke.
- Bob and Anne Krause and their family in the death of Bob's sister, Sylvia Schwartzlow January 4.
- Devon Murphy-Petersen's father, Dick Murphy in the Vet's Hospital in Iowa City with multiple health problems.
- Sandy Lorenzen's father, Paul Lee, radiation treatments
- Angie & Mandi Arthur's grandfather, Ted Bodley, upcoming heart valve replacement surgery.
- Mandi Arthur's friend Sallie Abba, upcoming surgery.
- Linda Sheriff's coworker, Francis Kennedy, quadruple bypass surgery.
- Renato Zurbano, hospitalized.
- Nancy Spence, undergoing chemotherapy.
- Deb Davenport, health issues and cancer.

### How to Reach Your Ministers

Doug, Pam and Susan want you to feel free to contact them:

Church Office - 270-9226

#### Doug Peters, Senior Minister

DM Home - (515) 457-7207;

Iowa City Home - (319) 354-6353

E-mail - doug@whumc.org

#### Pam Deeds, Associate Minister

DM Home - (515) 246-9944

E-mail - pam@whumc.org

#### Susan Guy, Associate Minister

DM Home - (515) 331-1880

E-mail - sguy@whumc.org

### Satellite Services

**Sunday afternoons** ~ Worship at Silvercrest Assisted Living - 2:00 p.m.

**Wednesday mornings** ~Worship at Timberline Care Facility, Deerfield-9:30-10:30 a.m.

**4th Sunday afternoons** ~Worship at Illahee Hills Retirement Residence - 3:30 p.m.

**Walnut Hills United Methodist Church**  
12321 Hickman Rd  
Des Moines, IA 50323

### Walnut Hills Office Hours

Monday-Thursday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to Noon

### Walnut Hills United Methodist Church

12321 Hickman Rd  
Urbandale, IA 50323  
Phone: 515-270-9226;  
Fax: 515-270-0838  
www.whumc.org

Doug Peters, Pam Deeds &  
Susan Guy, Ministers

8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Services

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Coffee House

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# Walnut Hills



January 13, 2008

A place to call home where we are welcomed and sent forth to serve.

## A Message from Doug

I am writing this on January 2, one day before the Iowa Caucuses and two days before I leave for England to see my son, daughter-in-law and two grandsons. In both cases there are a number of people who will provide guidance. Many, many officials from both political parties will make sure that over 1700 caucus sites provide the much-anticipated information about who is really winning in the presidential race. And on January 4 airplanes and airports will function together to get me from Des Moines to Detroit to Amsterdam to Birmingham.

The Finance/Stewardship Committee and I also need your guidance. You don't need to select the president and you don't need to create itineraries. But we do want to get your thoughts about the 2008 budget. This congregation has done some incredible things in offering significant pledges in both our annual stewardship campaign and our capital campaign. If you add the two together you will see that our members and friends have pledged at a level much higher than in past years. However, the annual stewardship pledges are lower than those of last year. 80% of our budget comes from relatively fixed expenses – construction debt, denominational apportionments and salaries. There is a gap of \$93,100 between pledged/non-pledged expected revenues and the proposed 2008 budget. We need to explain the details to you and also receive your input.

Will you meet with us for one hour – this Sunday, January 13, noon – 1 p.m.? It would sure mean a lot to us. See you Sunday. ~ Doug

## A New Ministry Coming to Walnut Hills

We are excited to introduce a new ministry coming to Walnut Hills UMC! Just when you thought there could be no other way in which you could reach out to others, we give to you **the Congregational Care Ministry!**

Walnut Hills is such a giving and caring church. Our Outreach programs help so many people and our congregation is always ready to step up to take the challenge. I started thinking about how we as a church community could challenge each other to connect with our own congregation. By giving our support and generosity our lives may be knitted together through caring for each other. After discussing with Doug my thoughts, and asking Jackie Konopik to help support my task, we created the Congregational Care Ministry.

The Congregational Care Ministry was formed so that we can help each other in our times of need and also in our times of joy. Whether it's a meal taken to a home welcoming a baby, or during an illness, or providing a meal at a funeral for a family going through a death, our vision with this ministry is the compassion and hospitality we give to others will fulfill our desire to be a true community of service and faith.

The Congregational Care Ministry will be composed of a team of leaders ready to plan and call upon congregation members who are willing to be available to serve.

We encourage you to seriously consider either being on our team, or being one of the dozens of volunteers ready to tackle the needs of our congregation.

Thank you for helping the community of caring at Walnut Hills!

Melinda Scantlin & Jackie Konopik

Co-coordinators of the Congregational Care Team

## Food Pantry Thank-you!

In 2007, you donated a total of 2,814 items to the Des Moines Area Religious Council's Emergency Food Pantry! That was up over 300 items from 2006. Thank you so much for your contributions to help families in need!

## Christmas Offering

Thank you to all who donated to the Christmas Offering to Hawthorn Hill. We raised \$7,817.36!!

## Spa Day

Yikes, will the snow ever end! Believe it or not, March is right around the corner, and ladies that means Spa Day! The Women of Walnut Hills is holding our Spa Day at "Beauty Brands" in Clive. We are looking for one lucky person to receive a complimentary make-over. Hair-cut, make-up, the works! While our lucky individual is receiving services, come and enjoy a complimentary paraffin dip, chair massage, and free hair or make-up consultation or just come and have fun with your friends. The day is March 8. Massages, manicures, pedicures, and other services are also available. Stop by and sign up February 3, 10, or 17. Contact Sandy Lorenzen if you have questions – 221-2999.

## Walnut Way Moment

"Do we not hallow places by our very commitment to them? When we turn our home into a place that nourishes and heals and contents, we are meeting directly all the hungers that a consumer society exacerbates but never satisfies."

~ Written by Carol Flinders - Taken from Food and Faith p. 73 - edited & compiled by Michael Schut

## This Sunday, January 13, 2008 - 1st Sunday after the Epiphany

**Musical Preparation:** 10 minutes before each service

**Doug Peters' Message:** "Getting the Heavens to Part"

**Scripture:** Matthew 3:13-17

**Music:** Tintinnabulators

**Renewal of Welcome and Living the Faith**

## WALNUT HILLS HAPPENINGS . . .

### Children Schedule and Announcements

#### Wednesday Evening Programming

**No Pizza Night for February**—  
All Church Ash Wednesday  
Service February 6th

Next Pizza Night at 5:30 March 5th  
Please check the stub on Sunday  
if you are planning to attend Pizza  
Night

\*Child Care available from 6:00-  
8:00pm\*

Children's Programming from  
6:00-7:15pm  
Kindergarten—4th grade  
Themes for Kids Alive 3rd Quarter-  
Interfaith: Buddhism, Islam, Hindu,  
Sikhism, Judaism/Christianity

56 Club for 5th & 6th graders  
*56 Club Band/Social/Spirituality/  
Service Projects*

All 5th & 6th Graders, bring your  
instrument and if you don't play  
one you will still be included in the  
56 Club Band!

Meet in the Celebration Center to  
begin the evening at 6:00pm.  
January 16th –30th Wednesday  
evenings—will play in worship  
February 3rd.

7:15-8:00 Room 103 - Supervision  
provided for Kindergarten through  
6th graders with quiet activities/  
games and a place to do  
homework while waiting for adult  
classes and/or youth group to end.

### Senior Adults Schedule

#### Friday mornings at Silvercrest

10:00-11:00 a.m. trauma doll  
stuffing and visiting. Join us for  
fellowship with residents at  
Silvercrest Assisted Living.

#### Illahee Hills Retirement

**Residence** is helping with the  
Trauma Dolls ministry the second  
Tuesday of each month. Contact Liz  
Coffman for information 278-6842.

#### Trauma Doll Ministry at

Silvercrest and Illahee Hills is a  
partnership with the North West  
Kiwans. Call Pam at 270-9226 for  
information.

### Youth News

**2008 is here!** Welcome back to Sunday School, Youth Group, Confirmation and College Lunches. Take a look at the calendar for January and plan to join us!

**Sunday School and Year 1 Confirmation** meet Sundays from 9:30 -10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, is the only Sunday we will not hold Sunday School. The last class for the year is May 18.

**Youth Group Meets Wednesday Nights from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Friends are always welcome!**

- ◆ Jr. High (grades 7 & 8) 6-6:30 "open room time" with leaders 6:30-7:00 - large group
- ◆ Senior High youth (grades 9-12<sup>th</sup>) are invited to Bible study and "Digging Deeper" groups from 6-6:30. Large group is from 6:30-8:00.

#### Year 2 Confirmation

- ◆ Year 2 Confirmation Class dates for the year: Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 9, April 20, May 18. Confirmation Sunday is June 1.
- ◆ Wednesday, January 16: Year 2 Confirmation youth invited to Tifereth Synagogue at 6:15 p.m. for their youth group & pizza.
- ◆ Friday, January 18: Year 2 Confirmation offsite visit to Tifereth. Meet at the Synagogue at 5:30 p.m.

#### Youth Participating in 2008 Work trip to Mission, South Dakota

Important Dates:

- ◆ January 15 is the deadline for registrations and deposit - turn into Julie
- ◆ January 13, 20 & 27<sup>th</sup> we'll be taking orders for our Super Bowl subs
- ◆ February 3 beginning at 7:00 a.m. - making subs and packaging for pickup
- ◆ January 20: Soup Lunch Fund raiser following 2<sup>nd</sup> service. Youth bring homemade soup and dessert to sell for free-will offering

### Secret Pal

The Women of Walnut Hills is sponsoring a Secret Pal Exchange. You will be matched with another woman in our church and anonymously send small notes, poems, prayers or small gifts. The dates are April 6 – April 27. We will end with an optional luncheon on May 3. Sign-ups are February 17, 24 & March 2. Questions??? Contact Sandy Lorenzen 221-2999.

### Winter Sport Activities

**Volleyball is back starting January 13!** Check the STUB if interested in participating in Co-ed Volleyball on Sundays starting in January. Volleyballs is for high school age and adults.

**Let's shoot hoops!** Co-ed Basketball is starting on Saturdays a.m. in January. Basketball is for 18 years or older. Check the STUB if interested in participating.

### Music Notes

#### 56 Club Band is back!

**January 9<sup>th</sup>,** the next 56 Club Band will began preparing for a worship presentation on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. All students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades are welcome to participate—rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings as a part of the 56 Club (6-7:15pm) and will begin right at 6pm. Call or e-mail Dawn if you have any questions (270-9226 or dawn@whumc.org). *Bring your instrument and join in!!!*

Do you want to play in the church's band, too? Watch for an announcement coming this winter for the rockin' band that will include all instrument players 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade!

## WALNUT HILLS AND THE COMMUNITY. . .

### Save the Dates

Michael Schut a well-known educator and editor/author of two books "Food and Faith" and "Simpler Living, Compassionate Life" is coming to WHUMC in January for two days of conversations/presentations. The Saturday workshop/retreat, open to the public is titled, "**Food & Faith - Listening for God's Call to Sustainability.**" Events will take place at WHUMC. The agenda for Michael's visit is as follows: **Saturday, January 26, 2008 – 8:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.** (includes early and mid-morning snack) Food and Faith: Listening for God's Call to Sustainability, Retreat/Interactive workshop, Information Fair, it is free and open to the public, \$10 good will donation Accepted. **Sunday, January 27, 2008 - noon - 3:00 p.m. (includes lunch)** Michael will address the Walnut Way journey group members in a private session. Registration fliers located in the East Gathering Area.

### Food Pantry

Our next Food Pantry Sunday is on January 20<sup>th</sup>, and our featured food for the month is boxed dinners (Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, meal kits). Please check the expiration dates as the Food Pantry cannot accept expired food. Remember – you can also write a check for your donation – write the check to Walnut Hills and put "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

### Effective Advocacy Workshop

Please join Plymouth United Church of Christ, Board of Christian Social Action and 12 area congregations and organizations, including Walnut Hills, for a forum on how to be an effective advocate on current issues before the Iowa Legislature. The public policy form is Sunday, January 20, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. in Waveland Hall, 4126 Ingersoll Ave in Des Moines. Box lunches will be available for \$6.50. Contact Alicia Claypool, 515-440-0773 or aplaypool@aol.com by Monday, January 14 to reserve a box lunch.

### DMARC Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed at the DMARC Food Pantry Warehouse on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Chenita Smiley at 277-6969.

### Upcoming Adult Classes

#### *The Mormons*

**Sundays, February 10 – April 6 (No Class March 23), 9:30 a.m.**

#### *Facilitated by Charlie Adams*

The Mormon faith is one of America's fastest-growing religions, and also one of the richest. This PBS Frontline production digs deep into the Mormon past to understand the church today.

#### *The Last Week*

**Wednesdays, February 13 & 20, 6-8 p.m.**

#### *Facilitated by Doug Peters*

This discussion group will be based on *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan, a book that focuses on Jesus' life between Palm Sunday and Easter. It will be helpful, although not essential, that participants take a look at the book ahead of time. You can order your copy through [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

### Lobby Day & Moral Witness for Children

Join an ecumenical faith group on Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at Calvary Baptist Church in Des Moines (606 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street) for Lobby Day and the Moral Witness for Children Rally. Lobby Day offers details about current issues and key legislation affecting Iowa's children, particularly those living in poverty. Participants will receive advocacy training to equip them for conversations with their elected officials. The Moral Witness for Children Rally will begin at 3:45 p.m. in the Capitol Rotunda. To sign up, please send your \$15 registration fee to the IAUMC Conference Center, Attn: Kristin Clark Nolan, 2301 Rittenhouse, Des Moines, IA 50321. You can also contact Kristin via email at [kristin.clarknolan@iaumc.org](mailto:kristin.clarknolan@iaumc.org). Lunch is included.

### Adult Classes

Wednesday Evenings, 6:00 p.m.:

The Bible and Homosexuality –  
Room 102

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.:

Contemporary Issues – Room 102

Faith and Life – Room 101

Food and Faith – Room 102

### Volunteers Needed for Free Tax Preparation Services

United Way of Central Iowa and ISED Ventures sponsor Free Tax Preparation sites to help low to moderate-income residents of Polk County take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit and other available tax credits. To volunteer or for more information about this service, please contact Megan Milligan, ISED Ventures at 515-283-0940 or [www.isedventures.org](http://www.isedventures.org).

### Meal Preparers and/or Servers

Preparers and/or servers are needed for **Meals for the Homeless** (Central Iowa Shelter & Services) Wednesday, February 5 and **CFUM Low Income Meal Program** (located at Trinity) Tuesday, January 15. Check the STUB.

### Upcoming Meetings

Justice Group – January 14 –  
5:30 p.m. – Koth Library  
RESULTS – January 21 – 6:00  
p.m. – Koth Library

### Groups Gather

- ◆ **Men's Roundtable:** Wednesday, January 23, noon at Walnut Hills. Host is Phil Meyer.
- ◆ **The Singles Group:** Meet on a certain day of the first weekend of each month. For more information or questions, call Nancy Strickler 280-7201.
- ◆ **Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG):** (first Tuesday of each month) February 5, 5:45 p.m. at Walnut Hills. Any questions, contact Ellen Grant at 369-8059.