



Briarwood
United Methodist Church

September 2011 Newsletter

Pastor's Corner

I got an email from Operation Christmas Child a few months ago telling me where my shoebox gifts had been sent. (Apparently, if you register your shoeboxes online, they will track them for you and send you an email.)

So, where had mine gone? Chad. A small country in Central Africa nestled between Nigeria, Sudan, and Cameroon.

Last year, over 35,000 shoebox gifts were sent to the children of Chad. Over 7,000 children participated in Bible Studies about Jesus after receiving their shoebox gift. We may never know how many came to faith as a result.

It's humbling to think that we were a part of that. Last year, we put together and sent out **57 shoebox gifts** for Operation Christmas Child.

That may not sound like a large number. But, for the size of our congregation, it's tremendous. That's almost one shoebox for every person in our church. That's spectacular.

Let's do it again. Let's put together **57 shoebox gifts** for Operation Christmas Child this year.

Christmas may sound like it's a long way off at this point. But, it's actually closer than you think.

The National Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child this year is **November 14-21**. That's the week before Thanksgiving.

So, the time to start is now. Will you consider putting together a shoebox gift this year?

More information will be coming soon about how to prepare a shoebox gift. A link is already up on our church website, if you'd like to follow it.

In the meantime, please be in prayer about this important ministry. As we heard last year at Family Night Supper, these gifts touch lives. You remember how Tanya Ury shared her story of receiving a shoebox gift as a child in Ukraine and the difference it made in her life.

Imagine the difference you could make in the life of another child like Tanya. So, will you help put together a shoebox gift this year?

See you Sunday,

Lauren

Operation Christmas Child



**National Collection Week:
November 14-21**

September Anniversaries

September 11 Mike & Pam Knight

Briarwood's Homebound Members

Jim Alvis	Jim McElroy
Johnnie Beasley	Wayne Milsted
Barbara Clark	Ruth & Anne Paine
Janet Coleman	Jones Robertson
Gloria Davis	Avanelle Stephens
Virginia Erwin	Dan Williams
Ella Dee Lamb	

September Honorees

September 4	Dennis & Julia Cranford
September 11	Gloria Davis
September 18	John & Ann Day
September 25	Charlie & Diane Dickens

Family Night Supper



Family Night Supper is Wednesday, September 21, at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

Maura McIntosh Fields will provide the program. Be sure to invite a friend to bring along with you.

UMW Meetings



General Meeting – Tuesday, Sept. 13, at 10 am
Ethel Bailey Circle – Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 10 am
Fidelity Circle – Saturday, Sept. 24, at 10 am

Men's Club

Men's Club will meet Sunday, September 18, at 8 a.m. in the fellowship hall.



Tommy and Pete will cook breakfast.

Can You Bake a Cherry Pie?



Or some cookies, cakes, or brownies? If so, gather your ingredients and bring your baked goods of choice *for sale* at the **Craft Fair** on **Saturday, October 22, 2011. Hours: 9 am – 3 pm**

Mark your Calendar!

Wilma Ammons

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Sunday, September 25, at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Finance Committee will meet at 2:30 p.m. in the Conference room.

Evangelism & Missions Committee

The Evangelism & Missions Committee will meet on Thursday, September 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Mission Needs for Wingard House

The items needed for the Wingard House are: *Ramen noodles, mayonnaise, bleach, laundry detergent, toilet paper, and trash bags.*



This is a Christian home that reaches out to those in need – men, women, and children. Place the items in the kitchen across from the Fellowship Hall.

Wesley Sunday School Class News

We will continue to deliver items to the Salvation Army! Thanks for your generous response and contributions. They are greatly appreciated.

Craft Fair



Saturday, October 22, 2011
9 am – 3 pm

Mark your calendars, and come join the fun.

Items to Pack in a Shoebox Gift

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, yo-yos, jump ropes, Slinky, etc.

Hygiene Items: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

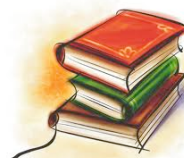
Do not include: Used items; toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as glass; aerosol cans.

Charge Conference

Our Charge Conference this year will be Sunday, November 13, at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Rev. Henderson Rasberry, our DS, will preside.

Library Notes



Church History: We have many books on the history of the church. The earliest books are in the No.5 category: Jesus and the Disciples. Category No.21, Church History, also has a number of very informative books, especially biographies.

Linda Anglin

Record of our Faithfulness

Budget Received to Date	\$113,894.00
Budget Needed Weekly	\$3,237.60
Total Budget Needed to Date	\$113,114.00