

In Our Community...

ASLAN-HAITI MISSION TRIP

February 18-22, 2010

Five MUMC members (Don Jengo, Gary Kochman, Amy Peak, Joanne Taylor, Debbie Vincent) will be traveling with Aslan Youth Ministries to Haiti on February 18-22. Aslan has acquired 7 acres of land in Ouanaminthe (near Haiti's border with the Dominican Republic), and has begun work to build an orphanage, school, and medical clinic on the site. Originally the team was slated to help with Aslan's preliminary building efforts there, and to offer basic medical services to those in need in the area. However, although Aslan's site was not affected by the recent, devastating earthquake, regional hospitals have begun to be flooded with victims from the quake who are overflowing out of Port-au-Prince. Under Aslan's direction, the MUMC team will do whatever is needed at the time. We praise and thank God for the generous heart for missions He has given to MUMC members, and thank the Women's Fellowship and everyone for their prayers and contributions, without which this trip would not be possible. What a joy and blessing to belong to a church whose love for Christ is so evident in members' hearts for giving to help those in need!

R.I.S.E. 2010

Middletown UMC will again be sending 3 teams to RISE during the summer of 2010. We are tentatively signed up for the week of July 11-17th (this won't be confirmed until March, though). Registration forms will first be sent to those who attended last year then open to other Senior High involved in Sunday School or UMYF. Cost to attend is \$175 per person. Registration forms will be mailed shortly after January 1st. Please be on the lookout. Any questions, please call Jan or Ger Ferrara at 732-706-0819.

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2010

February 19-21, 2010 - Grove Hall, NJ

Our Women's Retreat is February 19, 20 and 21st at Grove Hall in Ocean Grove and will be here before we know it. We are looking forward to having a blessed and great weekend. There's still time, so if you're interested in going please register on the Retreat Sign-Up Sheet located on our Women's Board. The total cost of the retreat is \$155.00. For those who have already signed up there will be a quick meeting Sunday February 7th between services to finalize the details.

(Continued in next column→)

If you have any questions, please contact Denise Goudsward or myself.

*Thanks,
Linda Bardell*

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

February 27, 2010, 8:30am

The next meeting for Women's Fellowship will be on Saturday, February 27th. We will begin with breakfast at 8:30 followed by a short meeting. If you have thought about joining us but were not able to give much time, know that our meetings are not long and generally we are done by 10:30-11:00. Or just come and have breakfast. All are welcome. There is a sign-up sheet on our bulletin board for you to tell us you're coming.

HEALING MINISTRY - February, 2010

Healing ministers will be offering prayers with members at the altar rail or in the pews during both services on Sunday, February 21st.

We will be meeting on Sunday, February 14th, 6:30pm, in the church library. We will discuss the third chapter in Charles Stanley's book, The Gift of Forgiveness. In this chapter, entitled "The Only Solution," Stanley talks about:

- Different ways that people respond to God's offer of forgiveness.
- How God's forgiveness is like an executive pardon.
- Why the degree or quantity of sin makes no difference in the judgment of guilt.
- Why forgiveness is a settled issue, even for future sins, once it has been found.
- How we can come to grips with God's solution for our past sins.

We welcome anyone to join us in discussing these aspects of forgiveness. Members of the congregation may contact Pastor Glenn or Phil Welch, Jr., to arrange for the pastor and/or healing ministers to visit and pray with them and loved ones in hospitals, nursing homes, their homes or over the phone.

Jesus answered them, 'Have faith in God. Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, "Be taken up and thrown into the sea", and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you. So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.'

[Mark 11:22-24]