

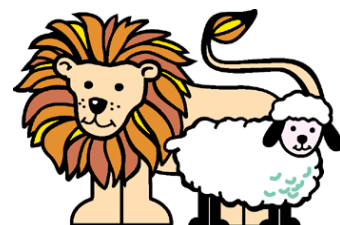
THE STEEPLE BELL

Brandenburg United Methodist Church
215 Broadway
Brandenburg, KY 40108

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ORGANIZED 1829
MARCH 2010 EDITION
MINISTER: Jim Robinson

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:00 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:45 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

(1) Michael Hurst (2) Justin Barley, Jessie Moore (3) David Dailey, William Flynn (4) Shea Gossett, Michelle Morris (5) Robert Buckley, Thomas Grant, Malerie Haynes, Doug Martin, Savanna Tucker, Mack Wilson (6) Lesley Wilson (7) Al Lawrence, Rachel Nelson (8) Jeff Greer (9) Andy King, David Wardrip (10) Lisa Emert (11) Cooper Crump, Olivia Honaker (12) Gene Fuller, William Hardy, Earl Murphy, Duncan Reed, Joy Trotter, Rich Tucker (13) Theresa Cook, Shawna Hickok, Lawson King, Rebecca Miller, Ben Wilson (14) Shane Burnfin, Bob Wilson (15) Justin Damron, John Hamilton, Khristina Phillips, Ben Roberts (16) Stephenie Allivand, Nicky Banks, Larry Mangin (17) Angela Brock, Jonathan Bruington, Kimberly Buckley, Kristin Dossett, Kasey Tobin, Jennifer Webb (18) Ethan Medley (19) Mimi Honaker (20) Linda Bailey, Laura Ledford, Daniel McQuary (21) Samuel Redman (22) Terri Davis, Olivia Erskine, Lillie King (23) Sam Morrison (24) Allen Applegate, Jeff Doane, Morris Futrell, Rebecca Shacklette, Angela Waddle (25) Kenneth Early (26) Ilene Aebersold, Brad Jones, Linda Tanguay (28) Charles Alexander, Sharon Haynes, Amelia Stull (29) Andre Hannah, Ben King, Toye Murphy (31) Gary Grant, Michael Smith

PASTOR'S E-MAIL ADDRESS: crctrdr@yahoo.com
SECRETARY'S E-MAIL ADDRESS: rose.zanone@bburgumc.org

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
PERMIT #6
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BRANDENBURG, KY 40108

CHURCH: (270) 422-2810
PARSONAGE: (270) 422-2833

CHURCH WEBSITE: www.bburgumc.org
CHURCH FAX NUMBER: 270-422-5771

Brandenburg United Methodist Church Steeple Bell



The season of Lent tends to be my favorite part of the church calendar. Like many, I find it helpful to have a time set aside that encourages me to take a clear-eyed look at my present life in relation to the life that God wants me to have. While not forced to do this, I am drawn to the disciplines of prayer, keeping a journal, repentance, fasting, forgiveness of others, regular scripture reading and solitude. If I never pause to take stock of where I am, how will I ever be able to set a course toward where I am going?

Our recent Ash Wednesday service was particularly meaningful for me. As I imposed the sign of the cross on the foreheads of others and spoke the words "Dust you are, and to dust you shall return. Repent and believe the gospel," I kept thinking of how my own earthly life is moving ever-more-rapidly toward its conclusion. As the smudge of ashes and oil formed each cross, I considered what my life had endured and accomplished since last year's Service of Ashes. Last year at this time, the Rev. Rick Bard came to encourage our church family to fan the flames of our faith into lives that burn brightly for God. During that week, our beloved mentor and friend, Dr. Wally Thomas, became ill and passed on to his eternal reward, leaving a void in our congregation and this commu-

SECOND CHANCE

The church is a volunteer-driven organization. We have lots of volunteers who do so much. Some have served for years in many different positions and areas of service. Here are thank-you notes for some who served the church in recent months:

- † Sunday School and other educational leaders.
- † Worship leaders (praise team, musicians, choirs, Higher Vision.)
- † Maintenance workers (recently): Jeff Canady for installing glass in office doors that meet Safe Sanctuary requirements, and new bulletin board for the youth near the gym. Doug Stone for organizing our keys.
- † Cooks, servers and kitchen cleaners for Half-Time.

March 2010

nity that will never be filled. On Ash Wednesday last year, Kim and I finally closed on the sale of our former house in Louisville after eight long months of keeping up two homes, something Wally had long prayed for but didn't live to see. All of these things are markers for my life, reminders that my time on earth is limited. What I do with that time is so important. Will I be found faithful at the end of this life? Is my life counting for something, or am I frittering it away on things temporal? Is the world, is my community, any better off because I have lived in their midst? Has the kingdom of God come any closer while I lived and breathed? Good questions, all.

This Lenten season, we've heard Mr. Jerry Dobson of Munfordville speak of what Wally Thomas' life meant to his own. We've been reminded that God is not nearly as impressed with our rule-following as He is our desire to bask in His presence. We've laid plans for a 'Sand & Summit' Retreat set for Mother's Day weekend that will encourage the women of our church and community to pay attention to both their exterior and interior lives, to be aware of both heady, mountaintop times with God and dry, desert times seemingly apart from God. My prayer for each of us is that this season becomes a time to take stock and make needed corrections, for time is marching inexorably on.

- Bro. Jim

† Workers in the Upward Basketball program.

HELP NEEDED - The portable room dividers / bulletin boards in the parish hall have served the church well for many years. They were built sturdily and are still in good condition; however, they need renovating. They need to be cleaned up, painted, and bulletin board material attached so thumb tacks and push pins can be used for displays. If you would be willing to take on this project, please see me.

Please sign up to serve the Half-Time Meals and to assist in washing dishes and cleaning the kitchen after the meals.

Russell East
Director of Programming

Take Time For Spiritual Renewal

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"
 Luke 24:32 (NIV)

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all."

For those interested in participating in the Walk to Emmaus, the next opportunity is coming soon. *The Men's Walk is March 11-14* (Thursday evening to Sunday afternoon). *The Women's Walk is the following weekend, March 18-21.*

Forms for applicants may be obtained by contacting Scott Wilson or by visiting the Elizabethtown Emmaus Community's Web site at <http://www.etownemmaus.org>.

March Communion Offering: United Methodist Committee on Relief

Our Communion offering on Sunday, March 7, will go to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) "One Great Hour of Sharing." Serving on mass-response and individual levels, UMCOR is ready to reach out immediately whenever and wherever God's people are in need. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering allows UMCOR to respond rapidly to disasters such as devastating cyclones, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and typhoons, war and civil strife and outbreaks of disease.

Your offering offers hope through prayers, physical help and financial support. It also works in many ways to assist people who strive to feed and support themselves and their families, to learn new skills, to obtain better health care and to survive and to work toward a fuller life.

Please do your part by giving generously to One Great Hour of Sharing. Now, more than ever, the world needs you. Thank you.

Ladies, mark your calendars for a *women's retreat - Sand and Summit* - to be held *May 7 and 8* in Corydon, Ind. Guest presenters will be the Rev. Dina Hackert (Tara Powers' sister) and Sister Analita Lancaster (Stephanie Stone's "Aunt Sis"). The weekend's focus will be on the seasons of a woman's life - the mountaintop experiences when we feel closest to God, and the desert experiences when God feels so far away. The retreat is open to all women over 18. A mother-daughter banquet, open to women and girls of all ages, will be held at the church on Saturday evening. Contact Sandra Stone or Stephanie Stone for more information.

ATTENDANCE and FINANCIAL REPORT as of JANUARY 31, 2009

DATE	S.S.	WORSHIP				
Jan. 3	160	8:45 a.m.	128	11:00 a.m.	122	Total 250
Jan. 10	193	8:45 a.m.	176	11:00 a.m.	109	Total 285
Jan. 17	153	8:45 a.m.	177	11:00 a.m.	99	Total 276
Jan. 24	141	8:45 a.m.	213	11:00 a.m.	147	Total 360
Jan. 31	146	8:45 a.m.	132	11:00 a.m.	102	Total 234

BUDGET FOR 2010:		\$448,000.00
		(\$8,615.38 per week)
Budget income received as of January 31		\$59,610.04
Budget income needed as of January 31		\$37,331.00
DESIGNATED OFFERINGS:		
Mission Fund		70.00
Coffee Sales		35.50
Children's Home		463.32
Halftime		989.00
Youth		1,010.00
UMCOR (Haiti)		3,398.00
ALMS Offering		536.00
Communion Offering		75.00
Upward Basketball		154.00
Prayer Garden		20.00
BUILDING FUND		
Building Fund Offerings Jan. 1-31		\$3,281.06
Building Fund Offerings for 2010		\$3,281.06
Building Fund Indebtedness		\$0.00

The Building Loan was paid off on January 31, 2010. Thanks to all who contributed to make this possible.

Rick Nelson, Treasurer

MISSION NEWS

The United Methodist Mountain Mission trucks will pick up at BUMC Wednesday, March 24. Please bring your items in Sunday, March 21, through Tuesday, March 23. Leave items in the hall by the nursery. The upstairs door off the ramp will be left unlocked during this time for your convenience.

Items needed most at this time are dishes, silverware, pots and pans, small kitchen appliances, good usable furniture, socks, underwear and shoes. They ALWAYS need all of the other wonderful good and usable items you donate to the Mission!

The Mission has found that the best boxes in which to stock clothing in their warehouse are banana boxes. They stack flat and evenly. If possible, please send clothing packed in banana boxes. Of course, they will continue to take donations in bags and other boxes!!

The Mission board recently voted to proceed with plans to build a retail center on the Mission property in Jackson to house our Opportunity Store and Furniture Store. They are presently paying rent of \$30,000 per year for their Opportunity Store - what a wonderful blessing and savings it will be! They would like to build this facility without borrowing any money. Donations for this project can be mailed to: Methodist Mountain Mission, P.O. Box 888, Jackson, KY 41339.

The Meade County Clothes Closet will again be working with the Feinstein Foundation on the *spring food drive* this year. During the months of March and April donated food items and monetary donations are totaled and a report is sent to the foundation. The foundation then takes a percentage of the total and then they will send a check to the Clothes Closet for the percentage amount (a minimum of \$250). Clothes Closet volunteers will be set up in front of Sav-a-Lot and the Dollar General Store on April 10 to hand out flyers and collect food. Mr. Feinstein requests this in the form of a challenge to the community.

Specific items are being requested from each church. **BUMC is being asked to contribute cereal, canned meat and washing powders.** Grocery carts will be set up in the Atrium and the Parish Hall for your donations.



Easter Lilies

On Easter Sunday we always decorate our Sanctuary with beautiful Easter lilies. If you would like to place an Easter lily in the Sanctuary in memory or honor of a loved one or a friend for Easter Sunday, please call the church office at 422-2810

by Wednesday, March 31, so the names can be listed in the bulletin Easter Sunday. You will need to make arrangements with your individual florist for the delivery of the flower(s) to the church. They should be delivered either Good Friday afternoon (April 2) or early Holy Saturday (April 3).

Please remember to pick up your lily following the 11 a.m. worship service Easter Sunday. If you do not pick up your lily by Sunday, April 11, it will be planted in the Prayer Garden.

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday will be observed with a communion service April 1, at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Good Friday will be observed April 2 at 7 p.m. in the BUMC Sanctuary during a shared service with First Baptist Church.

The resurrection of our LORD will be celebrated Sunday, April 4, during worship services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Please join us for these very special services.

Easter Egg Hunt

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt for children through 6th-grade will be held Easter Sunday, April 4, at 10 a.m. The BUMC Youth have agreed to take on the Easter Egg Hunt, but they request your assistance in providing donations of individually wrapped candy and small prizes. A donation box will be placed in the atrium for these items. Please bring in your donations by Sunday, March 21, so the Youth can stuff the eggs on Wednesday, March 24.

Easter Morning Breakfast

Easter Sunday morning the Brothers in Christ small groups will prepare breakfast for the congregation. We will be ready to serve about 8 a.m. and will serve until about 10:30 a.m. Services will be conducted at the usual times. We will serve such things as pancakes, biscuits and gravy, bacon and/or sausage, coffee milk and orange juice. All are invited. Donations will be accepted and appreciated.

Coffee Cart Sales = Clean Water

The Coffee Cart, located in the parish hall, offers for sale fair-trade coffee, tea and chocolate. The producers of these items are paid a fair wage for their products, hence the term "fair-trade." Proceeds from the sale of these items at Brandenburg United Methodist Church have been accumulating for quite a while now. The Mission Team has decided to donate \$1,200 to New Life International toward the purchase of a water purification system to be delivered to Haiti as part of ongoing earthquake relief efforts. Stop by and sample these high-quality products, and know that your purchase has far-reaching benefits.

SERVING OUR CHURCH IN MARCH

8:45 AM SERVICE

Pray with Pastor: Tom McQuary
Ushers: Bryan Claycomb, Mitch Crump, Bob Davis, Jeff Greer
Greeters: Narthex - Dottie Selter
 Parish Hall- Mary Beth McQuary
 Atrium - Tom McQuary
Information Table: Judy Applegate
Communion Servers: Lenny & Nicki Banks, Scott Bogard, Marvin Fackler

March 7
 Children's Moment: Alison Howard
 Cherub Church: Sandy Love & Allie Bogard
 Children's Church: Kasi Cannady & Rachel Harreld

March 14
 Children's Moment: Roxanne Miles
 Cherub Church: Michele Dix & Hannah King
 Children's Church: To be contacted

March 21:
 Children's Moment: John Turner
 Cherub Church: Gwen & Marissa Gallimore
 Children's Church: Becky & Colin Crump

March 28
 Children's Moment: Lesley Wilson
 Cherub Church: No Cherum Church
 Children's Church: No Children's Church

11:00 a.m. SERVICE

Pray with Pastor: Jody Young
Tellers: Mary Lee Ernst, Sheila Smith
Ushers: Don Martin (Head Usher), Sharon Martin, Don Dodson, Bruno Ilario, Sue Hayes
Greeters: Narthex - Barrett Howard
 Parish Hall - Vicky Hollingsworth
 Atrium - 10:00 a.m. - Simone Davisson
 11:00 a.m. - Ron Pile

If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled, please make arrangements, when possible, to switch days with another member.

Many blessings and congratulations to Dave Harper who was ordained February 27 by the Gospel Fellowship Church in Payneville.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bruno Ilario and his family in the passing of his former mother-in-law, Rosalia Ritchie.

We also extend sympathy to Azro Janes and his family in the passing of his brother, Otis Bennett, who died February 22 in Bedford, Ind.

Acolytes: Bethany Wilson, Jolynn Cannady
 Alternate - Katie Wilson
Information Table: Ruby Hamilton
Communion Servers: Ron Barger, Jackie Bruington
 Jeff & Leona Cannady

Children's Moment
 March 7: Russell East
 March 14: Linda Dodson
 March 21: Beverly Furnival
 March 28: Roger Furnival

There is no Cherub or Children's Church at the 11 a.m. worship service. Children ages 3 through Kindergarten are welcome to go to the nursery after Children's Moment.

MARCH EVANGELISM AND CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Evangelism Volunteers for first time guests
 Jackie Bruington & Martha Pile
Medco and Beehive Visitation
 Shirley Aebersold
Shut-in Food Preparation
 Week 1 - Kay Thomas, Vicky Hollingsworth
 Week 2 - Linda Tanguay, Jody Young
 Week 3 - Sue Hayes, Valerie Goins
 Week 4 - Linda Dodson, Jody Milliman
Shut-in Food Delivery
 Week 1 - Pat Carlson, Phyllis Melton
 Week 2 - Sandra Stone, Phyllis Melton
 Week 3 - Dave Wilson, Phyllis Melton
 Week 4 - Christine Ramsey, Phyllis Melton

Monthly Servers: The monthly servers are now listed in the last Sunday of the month's bulletin, the monthly Steeple Bell and on the bulletin board across from the church office.

MARCH CALENDAR

Regular Weekly Events:

*For church contact and number, see below

Sunday, March 7, 14, 21, 28
 8:45 a.m. Informal Worship Service
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
 5:00 p.m. Brothers in Christ (church)
 Praise Team Rehearsal
 UMYF
 6:00 p.m. Interpretive Movement
 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2, 9, 16, 23
 6:45 a.m. Brothers in Christ (McDonalds)
 10:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ (church)
 3:15 p.m. Special Olympics practice
 8:30 p.m. Men's Emmaus Reunion Group

Wednesday, March 3, 10, 17, 24
 5:45 p.m. Halftime Supper
 6:30 p.m. Preschool & Children's Choir (KIC Club), Adult Studies/Groups, Youth, Sisters in Christ, Brothers in Christ (church)
 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir
 Brothers in Christ (church)
 Ladies' Emmaus Reunion Group

Thursday, March 4, 11, 18, 25
 6:30 a.m. Brothers in Christ (church)
 6:00 p.m. Upward Basketball practice
 6:30 p.m. Brothers in Christ (EDJ. Bldg.)
Saturday, March 6, 13, 20, 27
 7:00 a.m. Brothers in Christ (church)

New Events:
Monday, March 1
 12:00 p.m. Ministerial Association Luncheon/Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Mission Team Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Upward Basketball
 7:00 p.m. DAR (parish hall)

Tuesday, March 2
 3:15 p.m. Special Olympics basketball practice

Thursday, March 4
 7:00 p.m. Upward Basketball

Visit our Web site, www.bburgumc.org, for news, photos and calendar updates

Saturday, March 6
 9 a.m. Upward Basketball
Sunday, March 7
 2:00 p.m. Upward Basketball awards celebration at Meade County High School
Tuesday, March 9
 3:15 p.m. Special Olympics basketball practice
 7:00 p.m. Dream Team Meeting
Thursday, March 11
 6:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting
Sunday, March 14
 4:30 p.m. Leadership & Team Meetings
 6:00 p.m. Church Council
Monday, March 15
 4:00 p.m. FLC Reserved
Tuesday, March 16
 8:30 a.m. VA Officer
Thursday, March 18
 1:00 p.m. N.A.R.F.E.
Friday, March 19 - Sunday, March 21
 Confirmation Retreat
Tuesday, March 23
 1:30 p.m. UMW
 7:00 p.m. Dream Team Meeting
Friday, March 26
 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 150 (FLC)

The closing ceremony for the Upward Basketball season will be held Sunday, March 7, at 2 p.m. in the gym at Meade County High School. Jester Ministries – an experience of magic, ministry and mirth – will be the featured guest.



Halftime Menus

March 3
 Lasagna, salad, breadsticks, dessert
March 10
 Hot ham and cheese sandwiches, coleslaw, chips, dessert
March 17
 Hot dogs, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, veggies & dip, brownies
March 24
 Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, dessert
March 31
 Spring Break – No Halftime

BUMC celebrates note-burning and dedication

For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther 4:14 (RSV)

In 1998, Brandenburg United Methodist Church began a visioning process to determine the needs of our ever growing church. From that visioning process came the plans for a \$1.2 million expansion which nearly doubled the square footage of the church facility. New facilities included six classrooms, a library, gym, kitchen, administrative offices and expanded and improved rest room facilities. In addition, the nursery in the old educational building was doubled in size.

A capital campaign resulted in the pledging of \$600,000 by church members, and \$600,000 was borrowed for the construction of the \$1.2 million facility.

Construction was completed in 2001, and the building was consecrated by Bishop James R. King on October 14 of that year.

In the years since, these facilities have allowed us to expand our ministries, both for the church family and the community as a whole.

In late 2009, while forming budgets for 2010,



The Rev. Russell East and the Rev. Jim Robinson preside over the burning of the mortgage on the East Family Life Center. East was pastor of BUMC during the planning and construction of the facility which bears his name. Robinson is the current pastor of BUMC.

it was noted the building indebtedness had shrunk to just over \$3,000. With a final push, the note was completely paid off by January 31, 2010.

In the United Methodist tradition, a building is not dedicated until all indebtedness has been paid on it. Since that day had come, a celebration was in order.

On February 14, 2010, the mortgage on the East Family Life Center was burned, and the building was dedicated to the glory of God and the service of God's people.

Surplus Printer Cartridges Available

Our former Senior and Associate Pastors, Wil-lard Knipp and Janet Carden left behind several LexMark ink cartridges when they moved to their new assignments. They are taking up space in Rose's office and we need to let others use them before they become unusable.

The black cartridges we have available are: #16 & #17 #70.

The color cartridges we have available are: #26, #27, #50, #60.

Anyone with a LexMark printer may have them on a first-come basis. Please see Russell if you are able to use these cartridges.

Policy on Gym Usage

We are very blessed to have a gym which is well used for a variety of events. When the gym is not being used for a specific church or community event, it is available for pickup basketball games and the like. However, in order to secure the safety of those using the facility and the security off the facility itself, we ask that you use the following procedure:

1. Obtain permission from a trustee or the church office, so we know who is in the building and when.

2. An adult (preferably 2) must be with minors at all times.

3. Lock up the building and turn off the lights when you leave.

Please feel free to contact the church office, 422-2810, with any questions.



I can't believe it's already March! It's all good, though, as I have an extreme case of spring fever after all the February snow. We just finished another busy month for the youth of BUMC. Karlea King and Kelsey Adams attended Chrysalis 45 on Valentine's weekend along with four other young people from Meade County. I had the opportunity to work this Chrysalis along with JB Greer, and there's no doubt in my mind that God was at work with all those in attendance.

The following weekend, Feb. 19-21, was our annual youth retreat at Camp Nikao in Elizabethtown. Our theme this year was "Love Is Here." We talked about God's love for us, how we can never stray too far or mess up too bad for God to give up on us. We also talked about the difference in "Worldly Love" and "Godly Love" and how we often get the two confused. We talked about how loving others without expecting or wanting anything in return, loving as God does, is love in its truest form. Of course it wouldn't be BUMC youth retreat without an initiation of our newest members and yes, that included me... OogaBooga! All in all, it was a fantastic weekend of growth and fellowship for our young people. Thanks to all who volunteered their time, in any form, to make our retreat a success!

BUMC YOUTH SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

Wednesdays – Small groups meet in the Youth Annex, 6:30 p.m.

Sundays – "Sunday Night Live" in the gym, 6:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 7: District-Wide Youth Rally, Memorial United Methodist Church, Elizabethtown, 4:30-7 p.m. Pizza will be provided for dinner.

March 19-21: Confirmation Weekend, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

March 28: Winter Jam 2010, Freedom Hall, Louisville.

We don't slow down in March! We will take 12 of our young people to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina March 19-21 for a Confirmation Retreat. I ask that you start praying for these young confirmands now as this promises to be a very special weekend in their lives. You'll hear more on this in the next few weeks. We also plan on taking a group to Winter Jam 2010 on Sunday, March 28. This Christian concert will be held at Freedom Hall and will feature Third Day, Newsboys, Tenth Avenue North and others. Tickets are \$10 at the door. We will need adults to volunteer for transportation. Please see me if you're interested!

We also have a new youth bulletin board in the small hallway that connects the main hallway and the gym in the Family Life Center!! I hope the use of two exclamation points conveys how excited I am about this central location which allows each and every person in our church family to keep up with youth activities, sign-up sheets, etc. Please stop by and check us out!

Finally, these last few months have been awesome, but as I've told our kids, we must continue to move forward in our relationship with God. We can't settle for what we have or allow the relationship to become stagnant. That's easy to say, but many of you know how difficult that can actually be. Please continue to pray for me and our youth

Barrett Howard

Brandenburg United Methodist Church will be sending 12 young people to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, for a confirmation retreat March 19-21. As a church family, we have the opportunity to help these 12 grow in their faith and understanding of our Lord and Savior. Small groups, families or individuals are encouraged to consider sponsoring a confirmand. Sponsorship would consist of a financial donation as well as a commitment to support the confirmand with your prayers during the confirmation retreat and your continued encouragement when they return. Any donation to help offset the \$150 cost per person will be appreciated. For more information, talk with Bro. Jim or Barrett Howard.