



News From Holland

Holland First United Methodist Church
March 2011 **Dr Phil Shuler, Pastor** Web Site: www.hollandum.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

EASTER AT HOLLAND UMC

PALM SUNDAY

April 17 9:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship with Palms
5:00 PM Cowboy Church (Don Johnson, preaching)

PASSION WEEK

April 20 6:30 PM Lenten Bible Study
April 22 6:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE "Black Friday"

EASTER SUNDAY

April 24 9:00 AM EASTER PAGEANT WORSHIP SERVICE

I wanted to begin my article this month with the schedule for our Easter celebration events and services. The Easter Celebration is the high point of the year for the Christian community. It is the time we gather to worship and praise God for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. "For God so loved...that He gave..." even His Son in order to give life to all regardless of who they are, the color of their skin, their language, or place of residence. It is a message of love that knows no boundaries or definition. It is one that is constant and relentless! God loves.....!

I know of no more appropriate time for the Easter resurrection message to be proclaimed than the present. With the prevalence of death and sacrifice throughout the Arab world (especially in Libya) and the tragedy that struck Japan with the projected loss of well over 10,000 lives, the message of God's unqualified and unrestricted love is both POWERFUL and RELEVANT! And who knows what else will have happened by the time you actually read this! This Easter message of God's limitless love has been captured by Al Denson in his song, "Peace Be Still." "Be not dismayed, though it seems like the hurt will never end...Be still and know the Father will never let you go...The pain is raging, you don't have to run and hide...The Lord is faithful to heal the hurting heart inside. Peace be still...The Father loves you."

There's a lot of hurt all around us. Listen to the joyful message of Easter amid the pain and agony that surrounds us: "Peace be still...the Father loves you." The cross is God's way of telling us "He'll never let us go!"

I pray your Lenten preparations enable you to hear and share this love with everyone you see. Plan now, because our Easter celebration is upon us. Come and share with us at Holland UMC, your church!

Yours in Christ
Philip Shuler, Pastor

Community Breakfast

April 3rd is the Pancake Breakfast for at the Kuhlmann Center 7-8:30 am. Our church service will follow at 9:00 am. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship! Call Rob Fagner if you have questions.

Cowboy Church

We had a good crowd and no one seemed to REALLY mind we didn't have barbecue. The sandwiches were plentiful and a great variety. The service was a good one with K.S. Head from Granger UMC giving witness to being a REAL cowboy. Mike had a good time with that, asking what is a real cowboy? We know Pastor Phil isn't but he gave a great message. He says he doesn't do such a great job corralling his grandchildren. They do more of the corralling than he does! Brain Smith's music hit the spot and everyone had a good time worshiping and fellowshiping. That is what it is all about. We were so glad to see Joey Frazier there. Praise God! Still keep those prayers going though. He still has a long road ahead!

The next Cowboy Church will be held on April 17th at 5:00pm at the Hager Farm. See you there!

Judy's News

Granger Community Food Pantry

Spring break probably had something to do with it, but we only had 42 families come through this month. We had plenty for all of them so that was a blessing. Thank you for all you do to help this mission a success.

5th Sunday Community Service

Our Services in the morning and at night were wonderful. Next ones will be on May 29th. We are having the morning service in the park and the evening service will be at our church. What an exciting time for all of us!

UMW

The meeting was cancelled and will be on April 6th, the first Wednesday of the month. Mark your calendars! District Day Apart is Saturday, April 16th.

UMM/UMME

The United Methodist Men will meet on **April 9th at 8:00 am** the fellowship hall and breakfast will be served.