

PLATTEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



I am on the Conference Board of Congregational Development. We had a meeting on Saturday December 15th. In Wausau. I suggested that we reschedule since Christmas was so close, Wausau is so far for many of us, and the weather in Wausau called for a wintery mix of precipitation. I was told that we would have the meeting with whoever was there. I decided to go

even though I didn't have the time. I am highly committed to the board I serve on. I believe it is very important. I got to Wausau and there were 3 other people there. But the co-chairpersons and our staff-person were not there. Turns out, the meeting was cancelled at 11:30 the night before, due to bad weather. I didn't check my e-mail before I left, since I was told the meeting would proceed with whoever could make it. I was not a happy camper.

That Saturday I drove for 7½ hours for nothing. Several people told me I should quit that board. People told me that since "they" didn't make sure I knew the meeting was cancelled, when I suggested the cancellation in the first place, that I should quit "them." But the thing is: there is no "them." There is only "us."

There is only "us." There is no "us" and "them." I am part of "them." Although I was not part of the last minute decision to cancel, as part of the board, I should have made sure we had a process in place to make sure everybody knew if there would be a cancellation. It was the responsibility of all of us. When you are part of a group, there can only be us.

January marks my 2 year anniversary with the Platteville United Methodist Church. When I arrived, this church was having an "us" and "them" crisis. We have healed quite a bit, but I still hear people talking about "them" way too much.

As your pastor, I have decided that 2013 is going to be the year of excellence. I am getting organized – which I do not do naturally (I am a messy person – spatially and organizationally). I will be talking with each staff person how they intend to live into excellence in 2013. It is going to be the year of BEING the church for everybody – excellence for everybody in 2013. Some people may not want to live that vision. If we do indeed live into that vision, it will cause us to grow, which will mean some unforeseen changes that some may not like. Some may not like our emphasis on "Learn God, Love God, Share God, Serve God" (see p.4) But we all need to be careful that we do not slip back into "us" and "them." We are only "us." We are Platteville United Methodist Church, listening to how God wants us to make disciples in 2013. We are the Body of Christ. We are us!

I'll see you in church, where we live into God's dream for US!

*Love
Pastor
Suzanne*



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On behalf of the United Methodist Women, I would like to thank everyone who made the Christmas Fair such a success this year. From the cookie sales to clean up, everything seemed to run smoothly and the comments from those attending the fair were very positive. Many, many people helped make this event a success and their names would fill up this newsletter! I do want to thank Barb Browning for organizing the serving of the lunch, Jennifer Fiedler for handling all the office work and phone calls and Richard for helping us with the set up. A special thank you goes to Noreen Masbruch for painting our new outdoor sign and for lining up the extra special publicity of the article in the Platteville Journal. The men of our congregation -- John Meisel, John Cottingham, Max Anderson -- who also contributed by doing dishes and carrying those endless boxes, signs, and tables and made crafts, also deserve our thanks. Lastly, I want to show special appreciation to Dee Gray who patiently answered all my questions. Next year's Fair will be December 7. If you were not able to participate this year, consider giving a hour of your time to helping. I can promise that you will have a great time with some great people! ~ Rosemary Anderson

MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

It is cold and flu season again. As I am writing this, influenza is entering our area. How do you know if you have influenza and what should you do? The following symptoms could mean influenza: fever between 102-104 degrees, bad headache, body aches, severe fatigue and weakness, dry cough, stuffy nose and sore throat, children may have nausea/vomiting and ear infection. The illness lasts about a week, but you may feel run down and have a residual cough for several weeks after. If the symptoms don't improve after a week and the high fever lasts more than a few days check with your doctor.

The illness symptoms should be treated with Tylenol or Advil for the fever (never aspirin for children under 18), cough medicine for severe cough, and drinking plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration. To prevent spreading the germs, cover your mouth when coughing and throw away the tissue, wash hands frequently with warm water and soap or use hand sanitizer gels with 60% alcohol. Keep the sick person in one room and using a separate bathroom if possible. Viruses are self-limiting and will run their course. If the ill person is at risk for severe illness, your Dr. may consider an antiviral medication if reported to him/her within 2 days. Like bacteria we are seeing resistant strains, so antivirals are used very carefully. **Don't panic!** Just be careful and take care of yourself by eating a healthy diet, keeping well hydrated and washing your hands frequently. And importantly, if you are sick stay home 24 hours after the fever is resolved to prevent the spread of the illness. ~Susan Schlager

Barely Seniors

Barely Seniors will meet on Thursday, January 10 at 12:00 pm in the fellowship hall with a potluck lunch and program. Table service and beverages are provided. Seniors are asked to bring a dish to pass.

Program: Pastor Mark Dieter "A Chaplain's Experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan". Pastor Dieter is the Pastor at Bethlehem Evangelical & Reformed and the Congregational Churches in Lancaster. He met with our Barely Seniors after his tour as a Navy Chaplain in Iraq. His second tour for a year was in Afghanistan as a Marine Chaplain.

The Cap Club met on Dec 4th. Members present were Pastor Brenda, Jim & Carol Kirkpatrick, Dee Gray, Hank and Judy Bossenbroek.

We all signed Christmas cards to send to our friends that we have been visiting this past year.

We will not have a meeting in Jan but will meet again Feb 5th at 10:00 am.

The Cap Club wishes everyone a Blessed New Year.

The CAP Club (Caring About People) is a group that visits the elderly, shut-ins and sick members of our congregation. They visit on a monthly basis, more if requested. If you would be interested in being a part of CAP, please come on February 5th or contact Hank and Judy Bossenbroek for more information (608)348-2133.

Basic Lay Servant Course

Dates: January 12 & 19, 2013

9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Place: Lake Mills United Methodist Church, 271 E. Prospect St, Lake Mills, WI

Teacher/Facilitator: Reverend Bill McBride

There is a \$5.00 charge for attending this course, and you must purchase the Lay Speaking Ministries Basic Course Participant book. You may register on-line at: <http://www.lakemillsumc.org/servant>. If you do not have access to the internet or are unable to register through this on-line site, you may also register by contacting the Lake Mills United Methodist Church at 920-648-2614

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.; Monday-Friday

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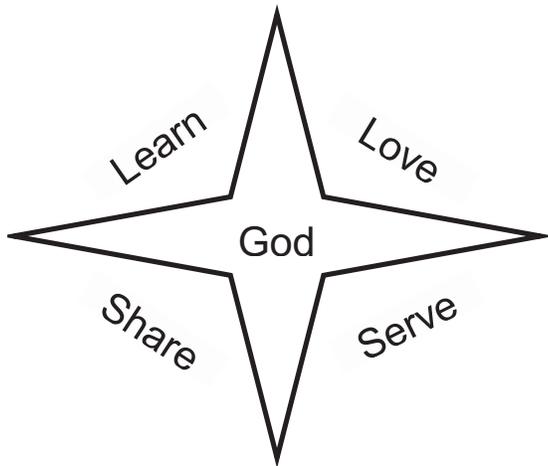
CONFIRMATION CORNER

Our Confirmation program is led by Sara Koeller. She does much of the teaching, with assistance from Pastor Brenda, Deb Putnam, Roy Shaver and Bill Van Deest. The last time Roy taught, he had the students write poetry about what they are learning and about their confirmation experience. Below are one each of haiku, doublet, and limerick:

From monotheism and to Christianity
To Protestantism then reformed and then Anglican
We are Methodist and United

Every Sunday when I leave the church
God lets me know he loves by letting the birds chirp

Out of 19 churches one is our home,
From the Catholic Church in Rome
John Wesley set this church on fire
So we could call God in needs of dire
And live a holy life of our own



From the Church Council

A year ago, Pastor Brenda asked our Church Council what is the process by how the Platteville United Methodist Church makes disciples. Although people listed various programs, it was decided that we do not have an easily identified process for making disciples.

The Church Council has spent this past year reading and discussing the book *Simple Church* by Rainer and Geiger. In October we spent some significant time identifying how Jesus made disciples, how the early church made disciples, and how the early Methodists made disciples. In our December meeting we discussed what a disciple at Platteville United Methodist Church

would look like: what they would do because they are disciples. We made a long list, and then worked to simplify it. We considered our long-time church members as well as people for whom walking into our church was their first experience ever. We came up with the following description: Disciples at PUMC “Learn God, Love God, Share God, and Serve God.” Dave Carnahan even drew us an illustration!

The order of the words was intentional. In order to love God, people must first learn about him, and as we learn about him, we love him more. We started with “serve people” and ended up with “serve God,” as whatever we do for anyone, we do for God.

The Church Council is not finished, as we do not yet have the process that began the discussion in the first place. But we have come a long way. Now that we agree what a disciple at PUMC should look like, we can ask, “What’s the best way to do that?” about each of our 4 descriptors.

Birthdays This Month

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Michelle Koeller | 14 Pam Catellier |
| 2 John Ambrosius | 15 Mia Simmons |
| 2 Judy Bossenbroek | 18 Norene Masbruch |
| 3 Elizabeth Whitford | 18 Jacki Hardy |
| 4 Lenny Glass | 19 Kathy Flaig |
| 5 Earl Appenzeller | 21 Janet Millard |
| 5 Bill Soles | 22 Jerry Burkard |
| 6 Delbert Rupp Sr. | 22 Richard Trewartha |
| 6 Cailey Jones | 24 Ron Rewey |
| 7 Tom Scanlan | 24 Jim Bruun |
| 8 Dolores Hutcheson | 24 Nancy Ziegenfuss |
| 8 Lauren Becker | 25 Nancy Fairchild |
| 9 Spencer Olds | 25 Jocelyn Gile |
| 9 Will Hollingsworth | 27 Roy Schoreld |
| 10 Deb Schroedl | 28 Kallena Pluemer |
| 10 Allison Demaree | 30 Deb Putnam |
| 10 Aubree Hromadka | 30 Lindsay Hollingsworth |
| 12 Tracy Harle | |

Celebrate

Anniversaries This Month

- 3 Ben & Laura Grossman
- 12 Rob & Jill Hasker
- 18 Merlyn & Viola Kuehl

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The 2012 children's program was a huge success. Thank you to all the children, parents and volunteers who helped with this wonderful program. A tremendous thank you to Madison Anderson and Amanda Zasada for directing.



Mary (Michelle Koeller), Joseph (Spencer Olds) and baby Jesus (Natalie Fosbinder).



HOLY ROLLERS & REDEEMER

“Souper Sunday” Soup Luncheon, the only fundraiser annually to support the Holy Rollers and Redeemer, will be on Sunday February 3, 2013 following the 11:00AM worship service. Soup Take Outs will be available after the 8:30AM worship service. The teen music ministry is self-funded through the generous donations offered and has been an annual event on Super Bowl Sunday every year since its inaugural event in 2004. The annual fund raiser has been led every year by Linda Curry and Nancy Mair. The bank account has dwindled down very close to the zero mark as of this month so your financial support is needed! The teens have been so grateful for the financial support and encouragement they have received over the years.

All are invited to enjoy lunch with over 15 varieties of soup, salads, cheese platters and a mega selection of deserts. A large hardcover digital photo album of the Holy Rollers titled “The First Decade” will be available for reminiscing. Video of the Holy Rollers and Redeemer will be displayed throughout your “Souper” lunch. Supporters are invited to donate generously to support our young Christians as they go forth and make disciples for Jesus Christ with praise and song! Donations to support the youth music ministry may offered at the soup lunch, dropped off at the church office or mailed to Platteville United Methodist Church, 1065 Lancaster St., Platteville, WI 53818.

MISSION COMMITTEE

Thank you everyone who donated gifts, food and money to help area families celebrate a joyous Christmas Season. Our congregation and friends of our congregation provided gifts to eleven families and food boxes to seventeen families (29 adults and 38 children). This has been a difficult year for many area families and they are very grateful for your generosity.

A special thank you to UMW for their donation to purchase meat for the food boxes. Also, thank you to the mission committee members, especially Carolyn Woodward, Norma Meisel, Max Anderson and John Ambrosius for their time and endless energy to help sort and purchase food, inventory and label gifts and distribute the boxes to the families. Great job!

Rita Elver, Mission Committee
Chairman



The 2013 budget is not yet ready to be voted on. In our first draft, expenses were significantly higher than projected income. As our church continues to grow and become stronger, we need to increase our programming budget lines, not reduce them! We are looking at ways of decreasing administrative areas. The Finance Committee has come up with a few things:

1. We have already eliminated our larger ad in the yellow pages. This will save us \$800.
2. We are changing how we provide offering envelopes. We will no longer be mailing them monthly. We will have offering envelope boxes for the year available in February for people to pick up. This should save us over \$1,000 a year! Let Jennifer know if you do not use or do not want envelopes.
3. The newsletter is very costly. If 100 people decided that they would like their newsletter electronically, we would save approximately \$1,000. (And those people would have newsletters with colored pictures!) Many churches and schools make electronic delivery the norm. We are beginning to explore electronic delivery. If you would like your newsletter emailed to you, please let Jennifer know.



Financial Peace University Coming Soon

We all need a plan for our money. Financial Peace University (FPU) teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching and small group discussion, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and give away more than you ever thought you could! FPU classes meet for an hour and a half each week for nine weeks.

A free class preview will be offered the last week of January. Class will start the first week of February. Class will either be Sunday or Tuesday in the early evening. Child care will be available if desired. Pastor Brenda will be facilitating this class. If you know you are interested, let her know which day would be better for you. The day will be chosen soon.

People regularly tell me that they would give more money away if they didn't have so much debt. Here is a plan. Dave Ramsey keeps the Bible central without being preachy, speaks in an entertaining way, and gives practical advice for getting out of debt. Ramsey says, "Imagine what the people of God could do for the Kingdom of God if they were debt free." Come join me. ~Pastor Brenda

January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Closed	2 Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	3 Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Recovery 7:30 pm	4	5 Holy Rollers & Redeemer to Juda
		Brenda on vacation until Jan 6th.				→
6 Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00 am	7 Breakfast Prayer Group @ Country Kitchen 6:45 am Blood Drive 11:30 am Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm	8 Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	9 Hearts & Hands 1:00 Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Worship Cmt 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Redeemer 6:30 pm Holy Rollers 7:00 pm	10 Barely Seniors 12:00 Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Recovery 7:30 pm	11	12
13 Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00 am Mallow Ringers 6 pm	14 Prayer group at CK 6:45 am Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Finance 6:30 pm	15 Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	16 Hearts & Hands 1:00 Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Redeemer 6:30 pm Holy Rollers 7:00 pm	17 Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Recovery 7:30 pm	18 Newsletter Deadline	19
20 Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11:00 am Mallow Ringers 6 pm	21 Prayer group at CK 6:45 am Church Council 6:00p	22 Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	23 Hearts & Hands 1:00 Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Redeemer 6:30 pm Holy Rollers 7:00 pm	24 Newsletter Assembled @ noon Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Recovery 7:30 pm	25	26
27 Worship 8:30 am Sunday School 9:45am Blood Pressure checks Worship 11:00 am	28 Prayer group at CK 6:45 am	29 Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm	30 Hearts & Hands 1:00 Yoga w/Val 5:15 pm Redeemer 6:30 pm Holy Rollers 7:00 pm	31 Dance Elite 3:30 pm Yoga w/Val 4:15 pm Recovery 7:30 pm	Financial Peace University free preview will be either Sunday or Tuesday this week. Watch the bulletin to find out.	

Mindy's

Corner

The other day I was thirsty and I went to fill up my water bottle. While filling it up I realized that there was mold growing at the bottom of the bottle. Not wanting to drink moldy water, I dumped out the water and walked back to my office. After sitting back down, I realized I was still really thirsty. I thought back to my last actions and realized that it was really dumb. I was just at the water fountain and I did not even bother to get a drink. I was so focused on my water bottle that I forgot that the water was right in front of me. Then I realized this was a metaphor to my spiritual life. Jesus offers me living water literally every day, any moment I need it, but many times I go thirsty because I am focused on something else. Why do I try to get by with no water, or stale, moldy water when the King of Kings is standing right in front of me with unlimited water, just waiting for me to stop, and drink it in? In John 10:10 we find that Jesus came to give us life and give it abundantly. How often do we miss out on this abundant life because we are focused on other less beneficial things? -Mindy

This has been an exciting season for me. I realize that as a congregation you have not seen much of the ministry I have been working on yet as groundwork is being laid. God has been doing crazy things in leading me to do his work here at PUMC.



The Merge youth group is going to have a new look and a new night next semester, watch for more updates coming this month!



The Ministry to College Age People, which is named Spark, is going to have a fresh new spin as it starts this month as the students return from a well deserved winter break and Passion Conference!



Small groups are going to look a bit different in January; we will be focusing on developing our leaders so a fruitful and sustaining small group ministry can flourish in the church. If you are a leader or would like to be a leader in the church I invite you to participate in this leadership development series.

The next all church group emphasis will begin the week of February 17th with Adam Hamilton's new book *The Way: Walking In the Footsteps of Jesus*.

JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Usher Schedule

8:30 a.m.	Calvin Koeller
	Lynn Schlager
11:00 a.m.	Joe & Alice Clifton

Greeters Schedule

January 6	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.
January 13	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.
January 20	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.
January 27	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.

Readers Schedule

January 6	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.
January 13	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.
January 20	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.
January 27	8:30 a.m.
	11:00 a.m.

December 30th

Mike Mair Leading Worship
8:30 Special Music
11:00 Blind Faith

January 6th

Elizabeth Duewer Leading Worship
8:30 Special Music
11:00 Blind Faith

January 13th

Being Recreated
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Remembering Our Baptisms
Communion Both Services
8:30 TBA
11:00 Blind Faith

January 20th

That's Not Very Christian of You!
Judging others
Matthew 7:1-6
8:30 TBA
11:00 Blind Faith

January 27th

I Know It's Not Very Christian of Me, But...
Excusing our behavior
James 3:3-12
8:30 Mallow Ringers
11:00 Blind Faith

Readers, greeters, and coffee hour hosts are needed for January. If you would like to read, greet or host coffee hour, please sign up on the table in the Narthex. Thank you!

We are beginning a new 5 week sermon series that goes until Lent called "That's Not Very Christian of You." We begin on January 13th by remembering our baptisms, and that in Christ we are a new creation. On the 20th we will talk about what we mean when we say, "That's not very Christian of you," and we will talk about what Jesus said about judging others. The third week we twist the phrase into, "That's not very Christian of me." We'll talk about what we mean when we say that. Sometimes it is true and we are about to say something we shouldn't say. Other times what we are about to say and do is something Christ would have said that people didn't like. As we continue into February, we'll talk about what the Bible says Christians should look like. We'll talk about the Fruit of the Spirit, and our new model for making Disciples here at Platteville United Methodist Church. Be sure to invite your friends to a meaningful sermon series!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees are so delighted that the chancel project was completed just in time for all the Christmas programs at the church. We are so appreciative of the work of everyone who donated their time, talent, and labor to make this project such a success. We know it took many hands doing many nights of hard work! All of these volunteer hours made this project so much more cost effective and enabled it to stay within the budgeted plan. That is very much appreciated! We are especially thankful for Warner Smidt's and Mike Mair's outstanding leadership in this project! For the final touch, the Memorial Committee designated funds to have Bill Soles paint the sanctuary to give it a warmer, fresh appearance. We so appreciate that donation and Bill's willingness to get the job finished so quickly.

Also the Trustees are pleased to inform you that we've finally made a decision on the church siding!! After a long, thorough study of many options, we have decided to have Bill Soles, a member of our church, restore the siding on the north side in the spring. This process will involve cleaning and staining to restore the cedar to its original beauty. Then we plan to restore/repair/replace the siding on the south side after the north side is completed.

People are asking : if we are behind in the budget in 2012 and are having trouble balancing in 2013, how could we spend money on the chancel, painting and on siding?

Monies from the budget are not being used to fund these special projects. There are special funds that in most cases cannot be used for the budget that are meant for things like building improvements. See someone on the Finance committee for more information.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Please Notify the Church Office When...

- * You or a member of your family is hospitalized.
- * You have a change of address, especially if you are going away for the winter.
- * Your phone number has changed.
- * Your email address has changed.
- * Your board or committee changes a meeting date or time.
- * Members of your family are students attending school away from home or are living at a different address

Your help with all of the above is very much appreciated!

Would you like to receive you newsletter electronically? If you would, please contact Jennifer in the church office.

Just a friendly reminder of the weekly announcement and newsletter deadlines.

Weekly Announcements

Wednesday morning

Newsletters

3rd Friday of the month

Please have any articles to the office no later than Friday afternoon. This will ensure that your article will get in the newsletter. Dates are posted in the weekly announcements, newsletter and sent out by email.



PLATTEVILLE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

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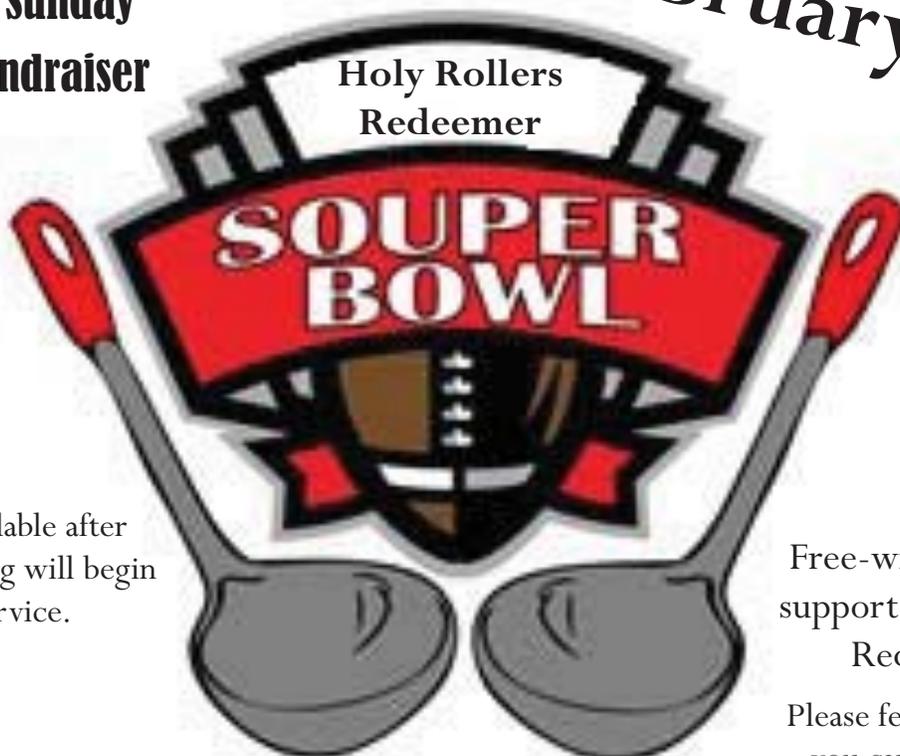
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If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter, please contact the church office to take your name off the mailing list. Thank you!

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**The Holy Rollers & Redeemer
Soup-er Bowl Sunday
Soup Lunch Fundraiser**

February 3, 2013



Carry-out will be available after the 8:30 service. Serving will begin after the 11:00 service.

Free-will offerings will help support the Holy Rollers and Redeemer ministry.

Please feel free to donate even if you cannot attend the lunch.