

April 2011



Good News From Gobin

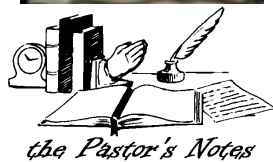
Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church

307 Simpson Street, PO Box 66, Greencastle, IN 46135

www.gobinumc.org

*We live so that all people will know they are loved by God.*

**NO ORANGES, PLEASE !!! for April 2011**



*the Pastor's Notes*

“How can you get to the joy of the Easter resurrection without first experiencing the sufferings of Christ?” Such were the words I heard from a seminary professor while attending the Iliff School of Theology over thirty years ago. Such is the same dilemma for the Christian community even now.

I have not heard a word of complaint from the many who are fasting during Lent this season. How amazed I’ve been at the children! During the Ash Wednesday service many announced how they were fasting and one child shared that he was giving up chocolate. I didn’t even think about it that next Sunday’s worship service when during the Sharing With the Young I offered Tootsie Rolls and M and Ms. This young disciple turned them both down without saying a word. Even a young person understands the message.

There are special plans for the month of April. Dr. Jeff Hansen will be preaching during the worship service of April 3<sup>rd</sup>

while I am away in Phoenix; he is our Lay Leader of the Gobin Memorial Church and now is a Certified Lay Speaker of the United Methodist Church.

Teddy Shuck will be leading Tuesday night Bible Study on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>; she’ll be concluding our study of the book of Isaiah with many insights and helpful spiritual truths.

Palm Sunday arrives April 17<sup>th</sup>; not only will we have the traditional march with the palms during worship but our children will be performing an original Easter skit!

Maundy Thursday finds us sharing communion in remembrance of Jesus and his followers in the Upper Room. Good Friday finds us reflecting on the crucifixion of Jesus through a musical service that will include several special numbers from members of our Gobin Choir.

This year we are planning an Easter Sunrise Service! We’ve been invited to go to the home of Linda and Vic Hunter where we’ll be meeting at

6:30am. Yes, 6:30am. We’re still working out the details but we hope to be joined by another local congregation for this service as we sing, meditate and pray, enjoy a short skit, and hear the lesson of the Gospel; afterwards, we’ll eat breakfast together and enjoy each other’s fellowship!

Our Easter Worship Service begins at 10:30am in the Sanctuary.

And this April ends with the Relay For Life, a community fundraising activity where Putnam County raises hundreds of dollars to serve and assist those who struggle with or have overcome the many diseases we call cancer. As always there will be a memorial service for those who are no longer with us due to this disease.

Getting to the joy of Easter is a process that takes many steps. I hope you’ll walk the journey with us this year.

*P.T. Wilson*

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### **BECOMING FULL MEMBERS OF GOBIN CHURCH**

Some have indicated that they would like to become Full Members of Gobin Memorial Church. If you are considering becoming a member, please call the church secretary at 658-6003. Pastor Wilson would like to meet with all who are considering this opportunity. Also, Pastor Wilson will be leading three hours of Membership Review during the Sunday School hour on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>. Please call the church secretary at 658-6003 if you would like to participate in this series.

### **Gobin Alive– Come Join Us At the Next Meeting Saturday, April 9th, 9-11am**



Thanks to the many who have joined our groups in collecting data, information, and doing research. We continue to learn about what has happened to our Gobin congregation over the past years, what is happening at DePauw, what is changing in Greencastle, and what are the big trends in the Christian movement. This information will be the foundation of where we are today and the basis of our deeper understanding of what a Christian Community needs to be. Our research will guide our vision. Gobin needs you to participate in one of these discovery teams.

Come join us at the next Gobin Alive Meeting on Saturday, April 9th in the re-birth of Gobin. We need your ideas, your concerns, and your vision to become ALIVE in our Greencastle community. Gobin needs everyone to participate in this process.

Our long-term opportunity begins at a weekend retreat on May 6-7<sup>th</sup>. It is at this retreat that we will decide our course of action for the next two years. We will have five teams focusing on:

1. Radical Hospitality
2. Passionate Worship
3. Intentional Faith Development
4. Risk-taking Mission and Service
5. Extravagant generosity

These five teams will meet monthly, define action within their groups, and move us ahead in our vision of what we are to become. Everyone is encouraged to join us in "Gobin Alive". Call Bill Hamm (653-8264) or the church office( 658-6003) for additional information.

### **Yoke Used on Ash Wednesday**

This article is in regard to the yoke PT used in the Ash Wednesday Service. It has a bit of history and out of respect for its creator, I think it needs to be explained. It was made by Leo Terry, a long-time very active member of Gobin along with his wife, Lillian, It was built in the early 60's and graced the walls of a room on the second floor of Charterhouse. It was the room called the Yoke Room and the room in which committee meetings were held around the huge round table now found in the Quilt Room. The yoke is now in the Rainbow Room off the Colonnade Room.



- Millie See

### **Bible Study**

Bible Study resumes on Tuesday night, April 5th. For the first two Tuesdays Teddy Shuck will be leading the group in the second half of the book of Isaiah. On April 5th Isaiah 40-55 will be discussed and on April 12th Isaiah 56-66 will be discussed. Many thanks to Teddy for her willingness to lead!

## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP !

April 3, 2011	<p>One Great Hour of Sharing (you'll be invited to participate in this national offering)</p> <p>Children's Message: Lisa Trigg</p> <p>Text: Matthew 22: 35-40, Isaiah 6:8, and I Corinthians 15:57-58</p> <p>Message: "Vision" by Special Guest Speaker Dr. Jeff Hansen</p> <p>Hymns: #110 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" # 92 "For the Beauty of the Earth" #314 "In the Garden"</p>
April 10, 2011	<p>Fifth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Children's Message: P.T. Wilson</p> <p>Text: Matthew 25: 14-30</p> <p>Message: Parables at the Temple: "Talents"</p> <p>Hymns: # 89 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" #407 "Close to Thee" #301 "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"</p>
April 17, 2011	<p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Children's Message: P.T. Wilson</p> <p>Text: Mathew 21: 1-11</p> <p>Message: "Cut Branches"</p> <p>Hymns: #278 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" #277 "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" #290 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"</p>
April 21, 2011	<p>Maundy Thursday Service</p> <p>Children's Message: P.T. Wilson</p> <p>Text: Matthew 26: 1-56</p> <p>Message: "Drama in 8 parts"</p> <p>Hymns: #263 "When Jesus the Healer ..." #273 "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" #295 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"</p>
April 22, 2011	<p>Good Friday Service</p> <p>Children's Message: P.T. Wilson</p> <p>Text: Matthew 27: 27-66</p> <p>Message: "3 O'Clock"</p> <p>Hymns: #298 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #287 "O Love Divine, What Hast ..." #288 "Were You There"</p>
April 24, 2011	<p>Easter Sunday &amp; Campus Ministry Sunday (you'll be invited to participate in this special offering)</p> <p>Children's Message: Teddy Shuck</p> <p>Text: Matthew 28: 1-10</p> <p>Message: "Do Not Be Afraid"</p> <p>Hymns: #302 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" #322 "Up From the Grave He Arose"</p>



**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- 4/03 Will Barrant
- 4/04 Marian Schlotterbeck
- 4/04 Clea VanMiddlesworth
- 4/05 Marjorie McCall
- 4/05 Loretta Bumgardner
- 4/06 Kathie Hornbeck
- 4/07 Bill Hamm
- 4/08 Robert Weiss
- 4/08 Rebecca Moore
- 4/08 Alice Howard
- 4/10 David Houck
- 4/12 Susan Lemon
- 4/12 George Howard
- 4/14 Mischa Harbison
- 4/14 Taylor Bouslog
- 4/19 Joe Ferguson
- 4/19 Barb Rice
- 4/19 Spencer Moore
- 4/23 Robert Clover
- 4/23 Brandy Gambill
- 4/26 June Sandy
- 4/27 Larry Bouslog
- 4/30 Nettie Smithers

**Directory Changes and Corrections:**

- P. 31 Edenfield, Lorena\* **Add** & Dexter, Alex  
**Change address to:** 783 Constitution Drive  
Fairbanks AK 99709
- P. 33 **Remove** Hurley, Dick\* & Virginia\*  
Transferred membership

**Gobin membership as of March 22nd is 201.**

**THANK YOU** — We received the following card:

God’s love is at the heart of so many things you do.  
Thank You . . . For blessing our family with a wonderful meal in honor of our mother’s passing  
—The family of Judy Albin Johnson

**SERVING ON SUNDAYS IN APRIL**

Kathy Sanders and Nancy Andis are greeting newcomers and visitors for the month of April.

Position	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
Ushers	John Hecko Amber Hecko John Schlotterbeck Lisa Trigg	Ken Gwinn Lynette Gwinn Brian Howard Eleanor Howard	Andy Barrant Jamie Barrant Scott Thede Denise Thede	David Houck Carolyn Houck Bob Newton Ann Newton
Communion Steward	Nettie Smithers	Harriett Dobson	Harriett Dobson	HarriettDobson
Fellowship	No Fellowship Pitch-In	Barb Rice	Brian Howard	Fran Allen
Assisting in the Nursery	Harriet Watson	Corrine Trigg	Courtney Sweet	Katie Hedge
Children’s Church	Brian & Eleanor Howard	Andy & Jamie Barrant	Andy & Jamie Barrant	Teddy Shuck



GOBIN ACTIVITIES

# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p align="center"><b>PASTOR WILSON WILL BE AWAY</b></p> <p>Pastor Wilson will be at a conference in phoenix from March 28th through April 4th. Both Rev. Beth Newton Watson and Rev. Dr. Robert Newton will be away from Greencastle as well during these days. Rev. Judy Purvis (West District Superintendent) is available for funerals if needed. For hospital calling and other pastoral needs, please call the cell phones of either Rev. Paul Champion at 765-719-3400 or Rev. Paul Fulp at 765-729-1130.</p>					1	2
					<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">                     Pastor at AAPC Conf in AZ                 </div>	
<p>3</p> <p>10:30am Worship w/ Bells of Gobin One Great Hour of Sharing (offering) 12:00pm Pitch-In</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00pm Missions</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4:30pm Bells 5:30 pm Fellowship at Putnam Inn 7:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>6</p> <p>NO Staff Mtg</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00am Lenten Breakfast Cloverdale UMC 10:am Lv Gobin for Myers Theatre</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">                     Pastor at AAPC Conf in AZ                 </div>			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">                     Pastor at MTSO for Seminary Visit                 </div>			
<p>10</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p>	<p>11</p> <p>First Mondays—PT in Bloomington 7:00 pm Trustees</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4:30pm Bells 5:30 pm Fellowship at Putnam Inn 7:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1:40pm Staff Mtg 7:00pm Education</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30am UMW Exec. Bd Mtg 1:30 Betbel Circle 4:00pm SEP 7:pm Staff Parish</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00am Lenten Breakfast at Brick Chapel</p>
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">                     Pastor away                 </div>				
<p>17</p> <p>10:30am Palm Sunday Worship</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 pm Finance</p>	<p>19</p> <p>4:30pm Bells 5:30 pm Fellowship at Putnam Inn 7:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 1:40pm Staff Mtg 7:00pm Genesis 7pm Endowment</p>	<p>21</p> <p>1:30pm Aldersgate Circle 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Svc.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00pm Good Friday Svc</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>6:30am Easter Sunrise Svc 10:30am Easter Sunday Worship 12pm Egg Hunt</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10am-3pm Sewing Bee in Colonnade Room 7:00 pm Church Council</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4:30pm Bells 5:30 pm Fellowship at Putnam Inn 7:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:40pm Staff Mtg</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00am Operation Classroom Packing Day at Cloverdale UMC 4pm SEP</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Relay for Life</p>
				<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">                     District Cmt on Ordained Ministry Interviews                 </div>		

## ACTIVITIES AT GOBIN

# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 4:30-5:30pm Sarah Hersbberger in basement with POTH	2 10am-12pm Rod Warfield guitar lessons  8:00 pm AA mtg
3 3-5pm Rod Warfield band rehearsal	4 4:00 pm TOPS	5 9:00 am Tot's Time 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary 5:30-8:30 Parents & Divorce Class	6	7 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary 4:30 pm PCCS cooking in kitchen	8 5-8pm Scrapbooking	9 10am-12pm Warfield guitar lessons  8:00 pm AA mtg
10 2-3:30pm Horizons Class 3-4:30pm Lisa's Girl Scouts 3-5pm Rod Warfield	11 4:00 pm TOPS	12 9:00 am Tots' Time 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary	13	14 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary 4:30 pm PCCS cooking in kitchen	15	16 10am-12pm Rod Warfield guitar lessons 1:00pm Recital sanct for student 8:00 pm AA mtg
17 2-3:30pm Horizons Class 3-5pm R.Warfield band rehearsal	18 4:00 pm TOPS	19 9:00 am Tots' Time 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary	20	21 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary 4:30 pm PCCS cooking in kitchen	22	23 10am-12pm Rod Warfield guitar lessons 8:00pm AA mtg
24 3-4:30pm Lisa's Girl Scouts 3-5pm R Warfield band rehearsal	25 4:00 pm TOPS	26 9:00 am Tots' Time 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary	27	28 4-6pm Exalt! in sanctuary 4:30 pm PCCS cooking in kitchen	29	30 10am-12pm Rod Warfield guitar lessons 8:00pm AA mtg

### Easter Offering for Campus Ministries

There are eight campus ministry sites that are supported by the United Methodist Church. In addition to the three United Methodist related schools (DePauw, University of Evansville, and University of Indianapolis) we have supported campus ministries at Indiana State University, Purdue, Ball State, Vincennes, and Indiana University-Purdue University-Ft. Wayne. In the past we had a vital campus ministry program at Indiana University-Bloomington but funding prevented that ministry from continuing. The same has happened to campus ministry at Ball State. Now the full-time campus minister at Indiana State University will no longer be there after June 30<sup>th</sup>, again due to funding.

Originally these sites were supported by a number of sources including apportionment dollars raised in the United Methodist Church. When the (new) Indiana Conference began most monies in support of institutional ministries came to an end. These sites were given six months advance notice that the majority of their income would end and were "invited" to begin fund-raising as quickly as possible.

Campus ministry can continue but it will look very different in the years ahead. Studies have shown that most lay leadership in the local church comes from adults who were active in campus ministry programs while in school. Without campus ministry programs that engage students and influence their transitions into adulthood we might be losing an entire generation of future leaders in the local church.

We hope that you will consider supporting Campus Ministry as we will take up an offering this year at Gobin Memorial at the 10:30am Easter Sunday worship service.

#### **HELP WANTED**

**The Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) is busy preparing for our summer program. SEP is looking for college and high school students that love working with children. Also, SEP is seeking people that like to cook. Summer Enrichment feeds the children breakfast and lunch. If you are available during the week from June 6 to July 8th and are interested in working for SEP, contact Gayle Hansen at [SEP@cinergmetro.net](mailto:SEP@cinergmetro.net) or call 653-2351 for more information. Applications are available in the church office.**

#### The Stewardship Scoop

The Stewardship Committee's Hour Ministry board located on the bulletin board across from the church office has recently been updated. The board features a variety of different volunteer opportunities to fulfill yearly pledges of time. On the board there are 10-12 brown envelopes with small slips of paper in them. After completing a task the slips of paper may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday morning. There will also be a miscellaneous envelope with slips of paper. Just fill out the paper with the job you completed and your name. The hours and tasks will be compiled by the Stewardship Committee and will be put towards your individual yearly pledge.



- Andy Barrand

## Imago Relationships

Gobin Memorial United Methodist provides funding for me to attend continuing education events each year. I recently used some of those monies to attend a two-and-a-half-day training in Indianapolis. While many of you may have already read the blog I wrote on this event on The Banner Graphic website, I'd like to share additional information I received from that training and indicate how I can use it in ministry at the Church.

Rev. Dr. Orville Hendrix is the Baptist pastor who developed Imago theory nearly forty years ago. His second marriage was near failure when he and graduate students at Perkins School of Theology (our United Methodist seminary at Southern Methodist University in Texas) decided to steer clear of Freudian ideas about relationships and instead focus upon communication between couples. He developed a systemic approach for couples to share their hurts and frustrations with each other. He then organized ground rules for boundaries and the safety of both partners. He believed that nearly any tension or conflict could be resolved if couples stayed within these boundaries and used this approach in communication. Sure enough, the divorce rate started dropping for couples that used his system. Working with a team of other psychotherapists, psychologists, and marriage and family counselors (including Pat Love and others whose writings became best sellers) they designed a training module to teach Imago around the world. They call themselves disciples and believe their approach is a spiritual system that brings healing to couples of any background.

Dr. Hendrix rarely makes personal appearances anymore but decided to come to Indianapolis as one of the two presenters during this training event. The first night was a presentation to the general public (who had paid a fee to be there); just hours after Indianapolis had re-opened after the ice storm, over three hundred people came that evening to listen to the founder of this school of practice. Friday and Saturday day-long events found nearly ninety of us who listened and then practiced these new insights by role modeling in groups of two and four. It was amazing to me to experience the release of pain and the chords of healing that occurred even as we role-modeled this approach with non-reality based situations. We were told that it didn't matter the subject matter. What matters are the specific tools in communication that are used for conflict resolution and the boundaries that are in place.

I have not secretly used any of what I learned on the good people of this congregation as if you are experimental lab rats! Yet, there have been committee meetings where I gained clarity by looking at situations using these new insights. It takes twelve days of training plus six months of supervision to become an Imago Therapist and I've now completed the first two days. I've been asked by the presenters to continue my training in their organization but, as of now, I cannot. After the fourth day of training you must attend a weekend retreat with your spouse. Yes, as of now, I could not advance in this training without being married! And, quite honestly, that "dampens" my appreciation of this approach in counseling.

*P.T. Wilson*

## RELAY FOR LIFE IS COMING: April 30-May 1

In 2011 it is estimated that over 170 new cancer cases will develop in Putnam County. Some of these cases may be our friends, or family or even ourselves. Given these statistics shouldn't we be doing everything we can to help to eradicate this disease, or at least look for a new way of treatment:



RELAY FOR LIFE: is one way we can help in the fight against cancer—and have a good time while doing it. There are several ways YOU can take part.

1) **BE A WALKER**—walkers pay a registration fee of \$10.00 which gives them a chance to get a T-shirt and food and drink for the day. Then you simply walk around the track at Blackstock Stadium at your own pace, for as long as you have chosen—and enjoy all the activities that are going on. You **MUST** also solicit pledges from your friends, family, neighbors, etc. The more money you raise the better. (\$100.00 per walker has been suggested.)

2) **SUPPORT A WALKER**—Make your donation for cancer treatment through your favorite walker. Or you can buy luminaries (\$10.00 for a white bag, \$25.00 for a purple bag, or a flambeau for \$100.00) in honor of, or memory of, anyone you wish. These candles will be lighted for the Luminary Ceremony at 10:00pm.

3) **COME OUT TO BLACKSTOCK STADIUM** on Relay Day and visit with the walkers and other friends, bid on the exciting “silent auction” items, buy some of the interesting things that are being sold at other “campsites”, or just enjoy the festive atmosphere.

4) **IF YOU ARE A CANCER SURVIVOR** there will be a special ceremony in your honor, a special lap around the track and 2 special meals for you and a friend.

The sign-up sheet for the WALKERS will be in the fellowship area after worship services in April and in the lobby outside the office during the week so that you can choose the time you wish to walk. If you have any questions, call Marjorie Smith (653-3574) or the church office.

## GENESIS CIRCLE REALLY COOKS

It was only a matter of time before some of the ladies of Gobin were ready to take up the matter of cooking for the guests of the A-Way Home Shelter again. Many thanks must go to Joanne Kissinger who coordinated this for many years and needed a much-deserved break. The Genesis Circle hopes to revive this event by calling upon other groups of the church to make a home-cooked meal for those staying at the Shelter. On March 10th several women of Genesis Circle made all the fixings for a great Mexican meal including taco meat, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, onions, sour cream, taco sauce, hard and soft taco shells, corn chips, corn casserole, queso dip, chocolate chip cookie pie, spice cake, and apple crisp with milk and lemonade. There were 14 Shelter guests and one child along with 6 ladies of Gobin and 4 of our children. It was a great time of food and fellowship with the guests. Don't wait to be called, ('cause you know she'll be calling you eventually), call Denise at 658-6003 to schedule a time to cook for A-Way Home Shelter!!



## **THE MISSION MESSAGE**

“Vibrant, fruitful, growing congregations practice Risk-Taking Mission and Service. Risk –Taking Mission and Service includes the projects, the efforts and work people do to make a positive difference in the lives of others for the purposes of Christ whether or not they will ever be part of the community of faith.”

—from “Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations” author Robert Schnase

With all that is going on in the world today, including the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, there are many opportunities for us to make a positive difference. You have many options, if you are able, to help those in need.

This year, because of local economic needs, the Mission Committee decided that we wanted to concentrate on local needs for our four quarterly missions:

- 1<sup>st</sup> quarter was Summer Enrichment Program;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter is Johnson Nichols Health Clinic;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter is The A-Way Home Shelter;
- 4<sup>th</sup> quarter is The Mary Allison Children’s Trust.

We want to thank you for generosity for our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter mission, and we hope you can continue to make a difference locally by donating toward our 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter mission, the Johnson Nichols Clinic. We at Gobin have a history with the clinic and would like to help continue the great work it does.

- Barb Rice, Chair of Missions

## **OPERATION CLASSROOM PACKING PARTY!!**

**The location has changed.** Packing Day will be at the Cloverdale United Methodist Church, 364 West Robert Weist Avenue, Cloverdale, IN for the Spring Packing Day only.

Packing Day will be April 28, 2011 beginning at 9:00 a.m. until done. We will be at the church on Wednesday, April

27th to accept donations. The UMW ladies will provide lunch. Scholarships are still needed. They are \$75.00 for a partial and \$125.00 for a full scholarship. School supplies are always needed as well as first aid supplies. Good summer clothing is used to fill in the boxes for packing. Ideas: Garden tools, Carpenter tools, Sewing supplies, Bicycles, Tennis shoes and flip flops, Baseball caps, Textbooks, Bible school supplies. If you have any questions, please call [\(765-653-5430\)](tel:765-653-5430) or [email \(plgreen49@localnet.com\)](mailto:plgreen49@localnet.com) Bill



## **Collection of Guatemala Mission Trip Money for Harriet Watson**

Thanks to the generosity of several people, we have collected \$522.85 of Harriet’s first payment of \$800 which is due in early March. The cost of the entire trip for Harriet alone is \$1,750. Gobin will continue to receive money on Harriet’s behalf until she leaves for Guatemala in June. Thanks again for your support of Har-





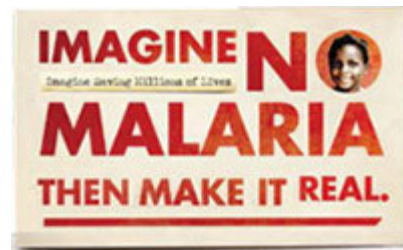
## Imagine No Malaria Lenten Devotional

Day 3: March 11, 2011

### An Empty Bed

*Luke 5:23-26* "Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.' So he said to the paralyzed man, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.' Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, 'We have seen remarkable things today.'"

A few months ago, I had the opportunity to travel to Sierra Leone to witness the work of The United Methodist Church in the elimination of malaria. While there, we traveled to Bo, the second-largest city and home to Mercy Hospital – part of the United Methodist network of health-care facilities in Sierra Leone. We were graciously welcomed and guided through a tour of the hospital by a doctor. While viewing the children's ward, I asked the doctor how many patients were being treated for malaria. He replied that of the five beds (all filled), three of the patients were suffering from malaria. He pointed to two beds that held infants, carefully watched over by their mothers who eyed us with interest. The doctor assured me that those two were recovering well, and that they would be expected to go home shortly.



[Learn more. Act now. Save lives.](#)

Then the doctor pointed to a third bed, where all I could see were rumpled sheets and no patient. The doctor explained, "That child was brought to us in a coma, suffering from a severe case of cerebral malaria." The family, it seemed, had waited too long to bring him to the hospital, whether for fear of not being able to pay or in hopes that it might be something other than malaria – something that would pass without the cost and inconvenience of a hospital stay. I turned to the doctor and asked a question to which I wasn't quite sure I wanted to hear the answer – a question that sent a shiver of fear through my mind: "Where is the patient now?"

The doctor replied, "We were able to treat the malaria, and nurse him back to health. He is already outside in the courtyard, playing with the other children."

Thanks be to God for the wonderful work of the doctors and nurses of The United Methodist Church in Africa who work tirelessly every day to save the lives of little children suffering from a preventable disease. Every 45 seconds, a child dies from malaria somewhere in Africa. But on that day, in that hospital, a child lived.

**Prayer: Lord, we can still see miracles performed by your hands, if only we look. Allow us to be your hands and feet here on Earth each day so that the miracle of the elimination of malaria may occur. Amen.**

Thought for the Day: What miracles has God worked in your life?

*Margo Jacobs, Michigan*  
Associate Executive Director, Imagine No Malaria

Get involved at [www.ImagineNoMalaria.org](http://www.ImagineNoMalaria.org).



Come Join Us  
on Palm Sunday,  
April 17th at 10:30am.  
We'll have a  
Palm Processional  
as well as Singing and a  
Skit from the Children



Begin Easter at our  
**6:30am Easter Sunrise Service**  
at Vic & Linda Hunter's Farm  
with a simple reenactment,  
singing, and a pitch-in breakfast.

Join us for **Easter Sunday worship at 10:30am** in the Gobin Sanctuary with Special Music from the Bells of Gobin, the Gobin Choir, and Organist Michael Conley. Don't forget the egg hunt after the service. Bring your own basket!!



**THANKS FOR THE HELP AT THE RUMMAGE SALE**

Many thanks to all those individuals who brought in donations for the sale, but especially to Rita Ferguson and her rummage crew who put everything out for the sale on Wednesday and Thursday, those who worked the sale on Saturday, and especially to those who helped box up the leftovers Saturday afternoon. We raised over \$3,000!!



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

*We live so that all people will know they  
are loved by God.*

If you would like to be removed from our Newsletter mailing list, please  
contact the church office at 765-653-6003 or [gobin@gobinumc.org](mailto:gobin@gobinumc.org).

Phone: 765-658-6010  
Email: [gobin@gobinumc.org](mailto:gobin@gobinumc.org)  
Pastor Wilson's home phone: 765-655-1545

Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church  
307 Simpson St.  
P.O. Box 66  
Greencastle, Indiana 46135

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