

The Harmony Grit

Robert Fletcher Hardy, IV, Pastor

May, 2008

Holy Week Services Held at Harmony

Harmony UMC held a full week of worship services during Holy Week. Most of the sermons were delivered by lay members of the congregation.

Sunday, March 16th was Palm Sunday. Leon Griffith spoke at the 11 AM service on “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” (Luke 23: 34). The Sunday night speaker was Jim Finney. He spoke on “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.” (Luke 23: 43). On Monday night our pastor Robert Hardy spoke on “Behold your Mother.” (John 19: 27). Tuesday night’s speaker was Butch Salmons. His topic was “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27: 46). Wednesday’s speaker was Ronnie Gibson. He discussed “I am thirsty” and “It is finished.” (John 19: 28 – 30).

The Maundy Thursday service was held on – Thursday night! The men of the church presented a re-enactment of the Last Supper in the Fellowship Hall. Friday night was a Tenebrae Service (Service of Darkness). Scripture was read and hymns sung as candles were extinguished. It was a time to remember just how gloomy things looked when Jesus was placed in a tomb 2000 years ago.

Harmony held an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on Saturday, March 22nd (photos on back).

Members of Harmony attended the Cascade Community Easter Sunrise Service (held at Cascade UMC) on Sunday, March 23rd. We then held our regular Sunday School and Worship services at Harmony. What a way to revive our faith as we gathered in God’s House to praise and worship together.

Important Meeting to be Held Soon!

The regular Church Council Meeting for Harmony was held Wednesday, April 16th. Reports by the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and the Finance Committee were presented on the feasibility of hiring a full time pastor for Harmony. Robert Hardy has served as our pastor in a full time capacity at part time pay for over 8 years. A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed by the Council members that Harmony pursue the possibility of hiring a full time pastor. Now comes the time for the IMPORTANT meeting.

District Superintendent Bruce Tuttle has been contacted concerning action of the Council. He will set up a Called Charge Conference (sometime later this month or in early June). The meeting will be announced at least 10 days in advance. The purpose of the meeting will be to let church members discuss and vote on whether Harmony should hire a full time minister. There will be presentations by the PPR Committee on the logistics and advantages of such a change and a report by the Finance Committee on the funding implications of a full time pastor. If you have questions or concerns that you want addressed at the meeting, please inform Butch Salmons (PPR), Jim Finney (Finance), or Robert Hardy.

For the first 70+ years of Harmony’s history, our church was part of a three or four church charge. Our vote at the Called Charge Conference needs to be based on what is **best** for the **future** of Harmony UMC. Our church has seen tremendous growth in the past 12 years. Attendance has increased in worship and Sunday School, giving has increased, there have been lots of improvements to our building. A strong Missions program has been undertaken by our church. New programs and activities are underway. The only constant is change. Would this action help our church to better serve our Savior and our fellow man? Would it allow us to better follow the example of Jesus as we conduct His work in our community? Are we doing God’s will as a church (and as Christians)? Please pray for God’s Guidance for Harmony on this vote.

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Friday, May 2nd

Sunday, May 11th @ 8 AM

Sunday, May 11th @ 11 AM

Wednesday, May 14th @ 7 PM

Sunday, March 23rd (All Day)

Movie Night (6:30 PM Children) (8 PM Adults)

Men's Breakfast

Mother's Day Service

Ladies Fellowship Meeting

Easter Services (See article on front page).

These events are in addition to the regular 7 PM Youth and Children meetings and the 7 PM Bible Study on Sunday nights, and the 7 PM meal and 7:30 PM Contemporary Worship Service on Thursday nights.

May Birthdays: Kristin Farris 1

Leon Griffith 2nd

Fletcher Hardy VI 7th

Robbie Finney 8th

Neda Finney 12th

Sue Gibson 12th

Kelly Gibson 13th

Cathy Denny 26th

May Anniversaries: Johnny & Jeanette Williams 12th

Randy & Cathy Denny 26th

Building and Grounds Chair Neda Finney wishes to thank the many people who turned out to clean the church grounds on Saturday, April 26th. A partial list of the work accomplished include: leaves raked, limbs cleaned up, gutters cleaned out, light fixture replaced, doors adjusted, flower bed replanted, grass watered, weeds sprayed, parking lot bumpers aligned, trash blown off pavement. Not bad for 2 ½ hours of work!

June is just around the corner. That means school is almost over for another year. So make plans now to attend the "End of School Year Carnival" at Harmony. The event will be held Saturday, June 14th from 11 AM to 2 PM. There will be oodles of games to play (think of the Midway at a fair) and lots of prizes. There will be rides and slides galore. Put on your clown face and come join the fun. All sorts of food and refreshments will be served. Plan now to start the summer off right.



**Scenes from the Easter Egg Hunt
festivities held on Saturday, March 22nd.**