

WORSHIP SERVICES NOW DIGITAL

By Head Usher – Steve Bloy

Starting with the first Sunday in May, our worship services have been recorded on a new digital CD recorder, which has replaced the cassette tape recorder that we were using. The new CD recorder will continue to give us the capacity to make audio copies of the service for our home-bound members and friends. We're now able to offer the audio copies of worship services in either CD or cassette format. Most weeks the copies are in the mail by midweek after Sunday. If you wish to receive a CD or a Cassette of worship services on a regular basis, or want a copy of a specific Sunday worship, please contact the church office. Be sure to specify what format you prefer.

Another upgrade to the church sound system is a new headset-type microphone for the pastor's wireless transmitter. The new microphone is a small, inconspicuous, and has better sensitivity than the previous mic.

Another project is in the planning stages. We have been wanting give the church website more dimensions. One of the things on the wishlist was the ability to put up portions of worship services on the church website as downloadable sound files or pod casts. The new CD recorder will provide the digital sound files to let us do this.

The CD recorder and headset microphone were purchased through an anonymous donation. Thank you for your generosity! Also thanks to the Technology Team for doing the research into these upgrades: Harry Harris, John Itson, Mary Garrett, and especially Bill Guetschow who worked extensively with the vendor.

- **The church website is www.tumcmadison.org**
- **Check it out!**

Wisconsin Stewardship Stories

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Luke 12:34

How many of us remember that all we have is a gift from God? If we say our faith is in God, it should be in God (God's giving) and not in the things of this earth (getting). As we grow in our faith, we need to get to the point where our focus isn't on the getting, but on God's giving. Every time we're blessed - through a paycheck, a gift of some sort, or a surprise - do we take time to realize that it all comes from God?

My great grandparents lived in the hills of rural North Carolina. The only job my great grandfather could find was working 3rd shift at a textile factory. He brought home \$10/week, which didn't go very far in the mid 1930's while raising a few children. He continually struggled to make ends meet, so he handed the financial books over to my great grandmother.

They weren't always Christians. In fact, my great grandmother started learning about Jesus through God's word when she was invited to a Bible study as an adult. She learned about God's faithfulness, our being thankful for what God has given us, and giving back to God out of thanks. So, as soon as she took control of the family finances she told her husband that they wouldn't be living off of \$10/week, but \$9/week. Their first payment each and every week was going to be given back to God.

Like so many other tithers, my great grandparents were blessed for the rest of their lives. They never had a whole lot, but they also never had to worry - just like Jesus told us!

Our giving is a reflection of our relationship with God. Our giving isn't about the administrative assistant's salary, the church bills, the church insurance, or the pastor's salary. It's all about our relationship with God. Each and every day, I believe Jesus would ask us, “Where does your treasure lie? Where is the place you want to be most?”

-Pastor Josh Pegram, Ash Creek & Willow Valley UMC's

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School of Christian Mission

TOGETHER AT THE TABLE is the theme of the 2009 School of Christian Mission, July 21-24 at Stevens Point. "For generations the table has been an important symbol for the gathered community. It is around the table that food is shared, discussions are held, decisions are made, crafts are created and board games are played."

2009 Mission Studies include:

Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival
The Beauty and Courage of Sudan: Why a Dream of Peace is Possible
Food & Faith
Young People
YoMiCa (Youth Mission Camp Grades 3-8)

See Karen Mayeshiba for more information. 277-1883



Congrats to Our Graduates!

Cari Chadwick
Mary Pyne
Angela Jones
Michael Chay
Mark Morgan
Elizabeth and Andrew Bolstad

Don't miss out on some upcoming fun and blessings in worship:

Sunday, May 31

Pentecost- Wear your red in honor of the day! Also, our Children's Choir will be singing!

Sunday, June 7

Recognition Sunday- Help us give thanks for the wonderful ministries of the year!

Sunday, June 14

United Methodist Sunday- Celebrating our past, present, and future

Sunday, June 21

"The World is My Parish"- Commissioning of the delegation to Guatemala

Sunday, June 28 thru Sunday, July 26, 2009-

Pastor Amanda will be out of country-- you'll be blessed for 5 Sundays of Pulpit Potluck!