

LAMPLIGHTER

Thompson United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 29, Thompson, OH 44086
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Dear Church Family,

Last month we listened to the media tell us about the crises that would happen if the Federal Government did not raise the debt ceiling. The last two weeks we have watched the stock market go up and down like a yo-yo. People are up tight and question what will happen in the near future. Our governing officials do not have any answers nor do they have a plan that will work.

There is a plan that will work for you concerning your personal finances. It is the best way to manage your personal finances. Dave Ramsey calls these "Baby Steps".

1. Save \$1,000 as fast as you can even by selling something.
2. Pay off all consumer debt (credit cards, student loans, car loans). Sell the car.
3. Save 3 -6 months living expenses for emergency purposes only.
4. Begin saving for retirement.
5. Save for your children's college.
6. Pay off your home mortgage.

Becoming debt free is possible by focusing on these "Baby Steps" in the above order. Become focused with your personal finances, throw a brick through your television and don't trust in another election to fix this country. You can become debt free!

"Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender" (Proverbs 22:7)

"With God everything is possible" (Matthew 19:26)

Call me! Lets Talk About It!

Serving Christ and Loving You,
Pastor Tom

**Service at Austinburg Rehab Center
on Sunday, September 18th at 3:00pm
All are Welcome**

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Worship Schedule

- 08/28 "Would You Like to Super Size That?"
Matthew 13:1-9
- 09/04 "I Dare You to Pray"
Matthew 9:35-10:10
- 09/11 "Remembering 9/11"
Luke 18:31-34; 19:28-40
- 09/18 Beginning a series of messages on the
Old Testament story of Joseph
"There is Always a Story"
Genesis 27:30-41
- 09/25 "Frustrated Over Favoritism"
Genesis 37:1-11

Dates to Remember

Finance Committee

Wednesday, August 31, 7:00pm

Committee on Lay Leadership

Thursday, September 1, 7:00pm

Open House at the Parsonage

Saturday, September 10, 3-6pm

Pastor Tom and Gale wish to invite the whole church family to their home. It is their way of saying thanks for a beautiful home. Come and celebrate with us. Refreshments will be provided.

September Birthdays

1 Terry Byers	Alaynah Carney
2 Minnie Jerke	18 Liz Mihalik
3 Sheryl Roessner	Bruce Remely
4 Erwin Leffel	Jamie Gaul
6 Dwayne Radabaugh	20 Connie Nyman
9 Joe Coffman	21 Rachel Gaul
10 Larry Markgraf	22 Margaret Byers
Alec Rowell	Neil Simpson
12 Rodney Ice	23 Frances Rauth (1918)
14 Beth Ann Smith	Rob Herrmann
15 Tom Gabor	Jessica Medvec
Carly Webber	28 Becky Barton
16 Maxine Gibson	Bill Milliff
17 Debi Paul	Devon Vojacek (Smith) 2004
Jim Rudesill	30 Eden Wheeler (2003)



BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH

and NEXT

October Birthdays

1 Hannah Self (1991)	11 Donna Milliff
Tyler Coffman (2003)	12 Donna Tinta
3 Kirk Fowler	16 Patricia Dean
Amy Mihalik	Janett Fowler
Sydne Medvec (2002)	19 Martha May
4 Jeannine Markgraf	Tobin Hawes
Susan Townsend	Pat Vollene
5 Joan Huber	21 Jason Thrower
6 Madalyn Journey (2000)	Jamie Ice
Roy Burkholder	25 Caleb Self
9 Vance Lunn	28 Chris Kordos
Doug Barstow	Mary Lou Sherer
10 Kathy Albright	Shari Toth
Megan Myden	29 Brian Keller
	30 Lonnie Lewis



September Anniversaries

2 Jerry & Bev Umbel 1958
4 George & Jeniffer Baker 1993
5 Phil & Barb Shemkunas 1980
8 Kermit & Gilda Spencer 1969
11 Terry & Shirley Lehman
12 Dave & Abby LaRue 1959
13 Eric & Nadine Toth 1980
14 Mark & Tiffany Miller 2002
16 Ron & Joanne Paul 1956
25 Frank & Mona Radabaugh 1954
26 Keith & Clare Barstow 1981
29 Richard & Karen Kne



October Anniversaries

1 Bryan & Bobby Johnson (2005)
3 Brian & Kimberly Szymczak
4 Bob & Sharon Moon (1958)
13 Tom & Liz Mihalik (1984)
Dennis & Vicki Coon (2007)
14 Len & Mary Lou Sherer (2000)
16 Vance & Jennifer Lunn
18 Doug & Julie Barstow (2008)
21 Dale & Karen Lambert (1995)
22 Steven & Jessica Medvec (2005)
25 Fred & Kay Wilber (1969)

Mission Offering for



Our ministry is based on **Hebrews 13:3**:

Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

Monday, September 12th

Trustee Meeting @ 6:30pm

Council Meeting @ 7:30pm

Monday, September 19th

Mission Meeting @ 6:30pm

Education Meeting @ 7:30 pm

Men's Fellowship will meet
Saturday 24, September at 8:30 am at TUMC
Men of all ages are Welcome.

The Voice of the Martyrs is a non-profit, [inter-denominational Christian organization](#) dedicated to assisting the persecuted church worldwide. VOM was founded in 1967 by Pastor Richard Wurmbrand, who was imprisoned 14 years in Communist Romania for his faith in Christ. His wife, Sabina, was imprisoned for three years. In the 1960s, Richard, Sabina, and their son, Mihai, were ransomed out of Romania and came to the United States. Through their travels, the Wurmbrands spread the message of the atrocities that Christians face in restricted nations, while establishing a network of offices dedicated to assisting the persecuted church. The Voice of the Martyrs continues in this mission around the world today through the following main purposes:

Announcements



Lunch

Ladies

will meet on Friday,
September 9th at The Phoenix
Buffet in Mentor
at 11:30am

**T
U
M
C**

**C H R I S T M A S
C R A F T S H O W**



October 1, 2011 from 9 AM - 4 PM.

Setup 8 AM - 9 PM; Teardown 4 PM - 5 PM.

Cost: \$15 per 8 Ft. Table.

Proceeds to benefit Bronze Wall Ministries Bible Quizzing.

Please contact Shari Toth @ [440-223-8064](tel:440-223-8064) or sharitoth@gmail.com

for more information and to register a table.

Dear Church Family,

Earlier this year you may have received a letter from the finance committee to let you know of our current financial situation. We are trying to keep you informed during this time of financial turmoil. We are not currently able to meet our expenses. We have not paid conference apportionments at all this year. And the most frightening news, for the first time ever we have had to take money from our Phillips Fund to meet general operating expenses.

Our church has experienced financial difficulty these past few years; our budget is very tight as we have already cut funding to many areas in the church. We are in discussion with the district superintendent and looking for ideas and options to be able to keep current with our bills. We will be conducting a fall stewardship campaign to let us know exactly what we can expect in giving for the next year. This will help us make informed decisions when looking at the 2012 budget.

The facts are not pretty. The Finance committee needs to cut between \$20,000 to \$30,000 if the current rate of giving remains the same. These will be serious cuts that would hurt the mission of Thompson UMC. No one wants to see any program cut; our desire is to fund more mission work and more programs to help people and spread God's love.

No one likes to talk about money. But the truth is it takes money to have a healthy church. The finance committee will make a budget that matches the giving. The question is: what will TUMC be able to fund in 2012? Will it be more than what we are currently doing? Or will it be less? We promise to be good stewards of what has been given to God through this church. We are asking you to prayerfully consider what part God desires you to play in this situation.

Sincerely,
Terry Byers, Finance Chair

**Announcements** continued...

2 September Fresh Produce DAYS!!!
Tuesday, September 19th & 30th from 3-5pm
(or until the produce is gone)
First come, first serve. Rain or Shine!

FROM OUR FOOD ROOM

WHAT A BUSY TIME IT HAS BEEN! We have been asked by the Cleveland Food Bank to have fresh PRODUCE ON AUGUST 30 AND SEPTEMBER 30. This is in addition to the other scheduled times for August and September. So, PLEASE remember to come out and get some food and help if you want too.

Montville Church of Christ chose to sponsor our food pantry during their Vacation Bible

School this past July. They delivered to us a whopping 20 bags of groceries. WOW!! a great BIG "THANK YOU" to all who gave! They also asked us to keep them informed of any going on's in the food room (where they could help). With the holiday time fast approaching its great to see GOD'S work. I also want to thank the many families who have dropped off the EXTRA'S from their gardens to be given out to families using the food pantry. In July the food pantry fed over 80 families; all receiving 14 days supply of food. The many families have asked me to send out a VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU- not only for the food- but also for making them feel loved, treated with respect and kindness by everyone they come in contact with from T.U.M.C. I personally feel we are so successful because we all here let GOD lead and we just obey. Thanks for your many area's of support and prayers. – *Kathy V.*

What can I say everyone? This was one of the funniest plays I think we've ever done, and I give you all enormous praise for doing so well! As I usually do I'll name off some names and some of the highlights from this year's summer play:

In order of appearance:

Princess Parsley: Leah Nash: Leah, I think this was your best part yet, and that is saying a lot. You were outstanding as the Princess and I loved you taking one of the title roles in the play I wrote, you did it perfectly, much better than I imagined. And I loved the added stuff too, Rapunzel's great granddaughter...

Prince Heel: Colin Simpson: You do realize now you'll be typecast as the villain... with a twirly mustache. You did amazing and always made me laugh, thank you for making me write the hula skirt gag...

Prince Spiel: Elmer Z. While: Oh Elmer, when we first met, so many years ago, I never realized you would be running about our stage in a beard and tights, making faces like a toad and cracking up all the audiences. You must come back for more plays. With the beard...

Prince Neil: Ryley Baker: Ryley, you are the first prince I would call for if our LIVES were on the line. You just keep getting more hilarious and great in your roles, and even when the practices took two hours, I loved all the ad libs. Next year: The entirely improv play! Name: "The Ryley Version."

Queen Puddocky: Amy Mihalik: Yes, yes, yes. I loved your evil queen, it was exactly what I was hoping it would be and more, you made an intimidating and funny villain, a very hard part to pull off, and you did it amazingly. I love doing plays with you.

Blind Beggar: Gino Salim: Gino, you make my life happy. Thank you for adding this part in to the play, and for being Eg one night, you were awesome in both, and must now appear in every play, no matter what, for good luck.

The King—Machia Wheeler: As always, hilarious, and we have way too much fun acting together. We pulled it off!

The Chancellor—Hap Howle: Taking this on the second time it was even better than the first, and I honestly didn't think it was possible. You did amazing and I liked the fun stuff you added in.

Princess Camilla—Angelina Huber: Ang, I love seeing you in a lead part, you were such a great geeky princess, I love all the little fun things you add to every part that you're in, and your funny scenes and more serious scenes were equally wonderful. Love it!

Dulcibella the maid—Elizabeth Wheeler: Cool! Did you notice your parts got the biggest laughs? I'd blame it all on the Princess Leia hair, but I know it was the funny facial expressions.

Prince Simon—Kyle Markgraf: Having you and Colin switch parts was so much fun, I loved your entrance possibly more than any other entrance we've ever done in a play, you just do comedy really well. Love it all!

Carlo the attendant—Colin Simpson: You acted like anything! You got laughs like nobody's business! You had people in tears at each corner of the pews! I shall never forget it.

David Toth: Eg! You did great, and you are officially our laugh track.

For those of you who did NOT see John Tsironis' and Quincy Wheeler's star turns in the plays, you are missing sooo much, ask for the DVD! Thank you all for coming and I look forward to working with our drama group staples, and hopefully a lot of new cast members for our Christmas play!

Hello Thompson Family,

This is your friendly neighborhood youth pastor, John Tsironis. We as a Youth Group are looking forward to a great school year, and an awesome trip to Point Fest on Sept. 17. Point Fest is a Christian Music Festival held at Cedar Point, there will be great bands like Skillet, Toby Mac, and Disciple. Keep the Youth in your prayers, that God will move in Mighty ways in their lives this year. As a recap of some of the fun summer events, the only problem that I had was that my Bowling & lazer Tag scores were a little weak. Wow even George Baker beat me, That's really bad!! Hopefully this month when we go to Scores Fun Center my numbers can improve. Gino & Angelina smoked me a few weeks ago at Freeway Lanes!

Ladies Retreat – I was able to attend a retreat on August 12th & 13th at Blue Rock Christian Camp on Short Road in Madison along with about 708 ladies and others from TUMC. We had a main speaker Friday eve and twice on Saturday, who was excellent. We had 3 different teachings we could attend. Friday's dinner was steak, Saturday's breakfast was great and lunch was soup & sandwiches & dessert. We ate, sang and learned. Next year will be held on August 10th & 11th so think about joining us. A great time was had by all!

– *Sharon*

The Education Committee is reviewing the job descriptions for Sunday School Superintendent and Sunday School Secretary. Next month we will be looking at the Teacher Policy and Requirements for teachers. We would like all the current teachers to attend. Because of the holiday, our meeting has been moved to September 19th at 7:30.

This year, the tithe from the Youth Auction will be given to Stoney Glen Camp.

Teacher Recognition Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 18th. *-glynn-*

Dear Church, This past summer I went to Stoney Glen Camp. When I first arrived I didn't know anybody but my friend Trevor who showed me around. I learned how to shoot a rifle and I learned how to shoot a bow in archery but my favorite was riflery. I met people there and did a lot and I would like to thank the TUMC for helping me to go to camp this summer. - Shane Huber

“Missionary Adventures” Vacation Bible School Interview with BoB



During Vacation Bible School many children became friends with an unusual guest star, BoB the Bob, who popped up in random places during the opening to give Machia loving (or not so loving) bites and to play the piano and mess with the

microphones among other pursuits. Due to many requests from children, I managed to get in an interview with the week's new celebrity, BoB, the Bob, and his new handler, who would not reveal their name. Here I give you the interview:

Me: So Bob, you were a big hit with the children this year, does this mean that you've done this sort of thing before?

BoB's Agent: Yes, BoB (he prefers to spell his name as uniquely as possible) has been working with children his whole career, and in fact his fame started at a Bible Club many years ago, and really

took off when he did a travelling show at Bible Quizzing nationals, performing onstage before the final quiz. BoB tries to stay humble about these things, however he would like to point out that Nationals has also played host to fire jugglers, and a rising presidential candidate, after the bar was set very high with BoB.

Me: Impressive. So you entertain both youth and children?

BoB's Agent: Yes, BoB prefer's to think of himself as akin to a Muppet rather than the spawn of new Sesame Street, although he is a large fan of the original.

Me: Well, who wasn't a fan of old sesame street. Who is your favorite muppet?

BoB's Agent: BoB is a large fan of Beaker, they share some personality traits, and he also admire's Miss Piggy's grip on the situations around her. BoB opened for the Electric Mayhem back when he was pursuing a solo music career.

Me: Really? So BoB usually does work with a group?

BoB's Agent: Yes, BoB has a variety of friends that he works with, and of course his usual host, Henry the Human, who interview Pastor Tom and John this week, however he enjoyed taking center stage this week, he feels very, very at home there.

Me: All right, well BoB, do you have a favorite memory from this week?

BoB's Agent: Well, the thunderous applause that he received from the children on the last day was one of his favorites, but another was after VBS was over one little girl wanted to see him so BoB met her in the sound boot, nibbled her fingers, let her pet his fuzzy head and introduced her to his friend, Folgers. Helping the kids get interested in VBS and enjoy themselves is what BoB enjoys the most. That and his the one man show in which he is currently starring in Hollywood. That's all the time we have for today. Bye!

Submitted by: Nadia Wheeler

Everyone brought a dish
we voted to give the church
wife Gale, what a delight.
ing a story that we were in
to think about meeting with
haron

Christmas Craft Show



Thompson United Methodist Church

Free Admission and Free Parking

Handmade Quality
Crafts and Your
Favorite Vendors!

Food Booth by
Bronze Wall
Ministries

For Table Info Contact Shari Toth at sharitoth@gmail.com or (440) 223-8064

In Loving Memory...

**Marlyn Sullivan's Sister
Mamie Spicer**

...Prayers for Family and Friends

...Prayers for All Our Military



call & remember to send cards
to our Friends!
For more information about
someone hospitalized please call
or send 968-3696

At Home

Wes Burn
Eleanor Dillworth
Jim Furr (Florida)
Jean Klinger
Bud May (Kentucky)
Pauline Moseley
Bruce Remley
Fran Rauth

And Away

Blossom Hill, Huntsburg
Donna Tinta
Eva Gibson
Briar Cliff, Middlefield
Murial Moseley
Geneva Pointe
Patricia Price
John Childress
Heather Hill, Chardon
Dennis Spicer
Mentor Way
Richard Perine

**To start a Prayer Chain at
Thompson United Methodist Church
Please call
Fay VanGorder 298-1140,
Verna Scott 298-3258,
& Shirley Childress 298-3483**



Church Directory

Pastor

Tom Gruver

Email: ptgruver@gmail.com

Youth Coordinator

John Tsironis

Email: johntsironis@hotmail.com

Lay Leader

Don Byers

Administrative Council

Jim Rudesil

Church Secretary

Sheryl Roessner

Communications

Sheryl Roessner

Email: tumc29@windstream.net

Christian Education

Glynn Howle

Evangelism

Nadia Wheeler

Shepherding Group

Sue Townsend

Finance

Terry Byers

Membership

Linnie Lausin

Missions

Jeannine Markgraf

Staff Parish Relations

Becky Barton

Sunday School Superintendent

Sharon Moon

Treasurer

Ivan Garrabrant

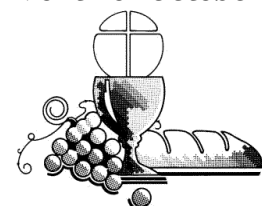
Trustees

David Toth

Church Services
8:30am & 11:00am

Sunday School
For all Ages
10:00am

Holy Communion
First Sunday in the
Month of October



Thompson UMC
P.O. Box 29
Thompson, OH 44086

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Closed Tuesday

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.thompsonumc.org

VISION STATEMENT

To make Disciples of Jesus Christ

MISSION STATEMENT

To Live Our Faith
To Share our Faith
and To Serve



September 23rd

[Daniel 2:21](#)

He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.