

# "New Direction" Center Grove UMC

3rd Sunday in Lent

3 March 2013

Liturgical Color: Purple

Rev. Alan Thompson

"Small church...big hearts for serving the Lord and our neighbor in love...transforming the world."

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Gathering  
Call to Worship \*  
Prayer of Illumination  
Praise Song \*  
Liturgy  
Silent Meditation & Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer  
Traditional Hymn  
Children's Word  
Giving of First Fruits  
Scripture Reading: Romans 13: 8-10  
Sermon: Hard Topics in Christianity - Homosexuality  
Invitation to Respond  
Praise Song \*  
Benediction  
Postlude: #672 God Be With You Til We Meet Again

Stand as you feel led to do so

\*CCLI: 11125485

## Lenten Schedule

Passion/Palm Sunday Service 3/24    Holy Thursday Service (SPUMC) 3/28 7pm  
Good Friday Prayer Vigil 3/29        Easter Sunrise Service (SPUMC) 3/31 7:11 am  
Flowering of Cross Easter Service (SPUMC) 3/31

## "New Direction"

- Attendance 2/24/13: 4
- "Hard Topics" Sermon Series during the Lenten Season 2/17/13-3/24/13
- Pastor will be away at Course of Study on Fridays/Saturdays in March
- Mission Opportunities
  - Pine Bluff Food Pantry - seeking donations and volunteers

- CCM – seeking volunteers
- Stop Hunger Now (collecting spare change for this mission)
- Basic Disaster Response Training 4/13/13 Mathews UMC 9am-5pm
- One Great Hour of Sharing 3/10/13
- Holy Conferencing:
  - Worship Planning TBD
  - Council Meeting
  - Lay Speaker Training April 6 & 7 @ Epworth UMC
- Invite others to experience “New Direction” at Center Grove UMC
- Time changes 3/10/13 – SPRING FORWARD

### Prayer List

**Local Church:** Helen Shinn, Angel Thompson, Polly Meehan, Laura Leigh, Rosalyn Greene, Susan Williams, Elizabeth Widenhouse, Martha Hartsell(rehab), Bob Krimminger, Kathy Cranford, Wanda Krimminger, Jerry Walter, Ellen Cline, Penny Jordan, Myra Thompson, Bob McClain, Don Cassese

**Community:** Kate Fincher, Matthew Wallace, Jonathan Sapp, Mary Helms, Military troops, World leaders Tammy Smith, Vicky Allman, Cindy Wise, *(in an effort to keep our prayer focused on particular needs, please provide updates on conditions when available as well as those that need to be added to our prayer program along with those to be removed) \*\*\**

### Upcoming Birthdays, Special Events, & Anniversaries

Kelsie Blovsky                      2/7

Sermon Series: “Hard Topics in Christianity.” 2/17-Suicide, 3/3-Homosexuality, 3/10-Abortion, 3/17-Immigration, 3/24-Addictions, 4/7-Poverty, 4/14-Violence

**Pastor Contact Information:** Alan Thompson, 704/791-2907, [amt6973@gmail.com](mailto:amt6973@gmail.com) or [athompson@wnccumc.net](mailto:athompson@wnccumc.net)



Paragraph 161 UM Book of Discipline: We affirm the sanctity of the marriage covenant that is expressed in love, mutual support, personal commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman. Although all persons are sexual beings whether or not they are married, sexual relations are affirmed only with the covenant of monogamous, heterosexual marriage. All persons, regardless of age, gender, marital status, or sexual orientation, are entitled to have their human and civil rights ensured and to be protected against violence. We affirm that all persons are individuals of sacred worth, created in the image of God. All persons need the ministry of the Church in their struggles for human fulfillment, as well as the spiritual and emotional care of a fellowship that enables reconciling relationships with God, with others, and with self. The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching. We affirm that God’s grace is available to all. We will seek to live together in Christian community, welcoming, forgiving, and loving one another, as Christ has loved and accepted us. We implore families and churches not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends. We commit ourselves to be in ministry for and with all persons.