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Shane and Shane at Sikeston FUMC

First UMC is bringing a big concert to Sikeston. On Aug. 27, Dove Award nominees Shane and Shane will be in concert at Miner Convention Center.

Special pre-sale will be next weekend (May 21 & 22) and you can buy tickets after each worship service at the special pre-sale price of \$10. Bethany Dillon, Freely, and Dub Pierce will open for Shane and Shane.

Shane & Shane has cemented its status as one of contemporary Christian music's most consistent, compelling, and successful artists for nearly a decade. A staple on the fickle college circuit, the acoustic guitar-wielding duo has averaged 250-300 shows per year for most of its career. Between independent recordings, six studio releases, and a combo CD/DVD live project, its tally hovers around a half-million records sold. It would be easy to let these statistics overshadow the essential reason Shane & Shane has come so far in the first place. "The ministry of Shane & Shane is to just tell people about Jesus," explains Shane Barnard with his characteristic Texan candor.

Among the most devotionally focused singer/songwriters of this generation, for Shane Barnard and Shane Everett, it all comes back to the creative source. "We always have a tendency to bring the scriptures into our songs," Barnard explains. "It happens naturally for us. It's not like we have a game plan, but we've always spent a lot of time in the Word of God. The Word of God is just so good – if you don't mess with it – it's hard to mess it

up. I think this album, probably more than any other album we've done, is the Word of God set to music."

Tickets will go on sale May 23 to the public at the regular price. Seating will be limited.

Pancake Breakfast Saturday at Dexter Methodist

The United Methodist Men at the First united Methodist Church in Dexter will hold a Pancake Breakfast this Saturday, May 14. Serving will be from 7 – 11 a.m. in Wesley Hall on the church campus.

The breakfast will include pancakes, sausage and drinks. The price of a ticket is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and younger.

Profits will be by the United Methodist Men for ongoing group projects. Tickets will be available at the door.

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Maundy Thursday: Mandate & Servanthood

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Maundy Thursday: Mandate & Servanthood

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
John 13:34-35 (NRSV)

“When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”

By The Rev. Dr. Larry Colvin

The Thursday before Easter commonly known as Maundy Thursday (sometimes Holy Thursday), is a bitter-sweet day in the life of the church. It is both a reminder of Jesus’ offering bread and wine during his last meal with his disciples. It is also the evening he prayed alone in the Garden of Gethsemane before he was arrested because one of his disciples had betrayed him to the authorities. Before morning, another disciple, Peter, would three times deny knowing him.

There are several conjectures as to the derivation of the term maundy but the most commonly accepted is it comes from the Latin *mandatum novum* meaning “new commandment.”

The Gospel of John tells us that when Jesus was with his disciples he washed their feet and following this he said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” (John 13:34)

To wash the feet of a guest in your home was a sign of hospitality but it was also a humbling task. Humbling enough, slaves were not required to do it.

Here, Jesus takes the lowest role possible in stooping to wash feet. His commandment is to love one another so much to do to others as he has done for them. Because of this, many churches include the washing of feet as a part of their celebration of Maundy Thursday.

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, record that Jesus gathered with his disciples to celebrate the Passover meal. Here he instituted the Lord’s Supper when he took bread and said, “This is my body,” and he took wine and said, “This is my blood.”

Here a covenant in the forgiveness of sins is shared in the pouring out of his blood. Luke records Jesus saying, “Do this in remembrance of me.” (Luke 22:19b) Because of this, congregations will gather for the sharing in communion and the remembrance of Jesus on this night.

There are two other traditions churches may choose to celebrate on this day. First is a Seder or Passover meal. It is common to conclude this meal with the sharing of communion noting the Lord’s Supper comes out of this tradition.

Some churches, following communion, may hold a service of tenebrae or shadows. As scripture is read, candles are extinguished until there is total darkness. Others may share in this observance on Good Friday the following night.

The Rev. Larry Colvin is the pastor of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Dexter.

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Church News: April 15, 2011

Holy Week Services Planned In Bernie

The 48th annual Holy Week Services will be held at the Bernie United Methodist Church from April 18 – April 22.

These 25-minute services, which begin at 7:30 a.m. each day, are presented by children and youth from various community churches.

Special music will be offered each morning, and refreshments will be served following the services. Rev. Susan Marner-Sides, pastor, and the congregation invite everyone to attend.

Local Church Plans Maundy Thursday Service

A Maundy Thursday Service will be held at the Bernie United Methodist Church on Thursday, April 21, at 7 p.m.

Also called Holy Thursday, this is the night Christians commemorate the last supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. In remembrance of that meal, Holy

Communion will be served to all who wish to receive, regardless of church membership.

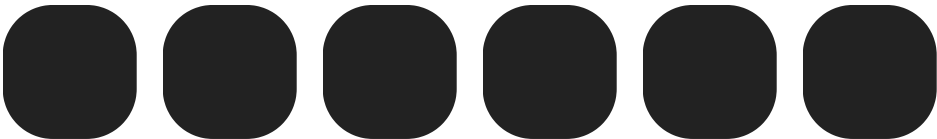
Rev. Susan Marner-Sides, pastor, and the Bernie UMC congregation invite everyone to attend this special service.

The ShowMe Times gladly accepts submissions for FAITH, the SMT's section for church and religion news. Churches are invited to submit news of their church, church groups and upcoming events to: amiller@showmetimes.com or call the ShowMe Times at 573.624.7469.

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Faith Influenced Titanic Band 99 Years Ago

APRIL 15TH 2011 BY NEWS

Faith Influenced Titanic Band 99 Years Ago

*By Joey Butler,
Special To The ShowMe Times*

Since 1955, April 15 has signified Tax Day in the United States — a pretty tragic date in our minds. But prior to that, April 15 always marked an even larger tragedy: the sinking of the RMS Titanic.

This year marks the 99th anniversary of the famous shipwreck that claimed almost 1,500 lives, and as the centennial draws nearer, interest in the event is ramping up.

A recently released book by music journalist Steve Turner detailing the lives of the bandmembers cites the Methodist heritage of bandleader and violinist Wallace Hartley and cellist John Wesley Woodward, and speculates how their faith influenced their decision to play till the last.

“[Hartley’s] moral character and his personal assurance that death was not the end must have stirred his bandmen,” In “The Band That Played On,” Turner wrote: “[Hartley’s] moral character and his personal assurance that death was not the end must have stirred his bandmen. Together as a band under Hartley’s leadership, they transcended their personal limitations.”

Wallace Hartley was raised in Colne, England. His father, Albion Hartley, was choirmaster and Sunday school superintendent at Bethel Independent Methodist Chapel. Perhaps a foreshadowing of things to come, it was choirmaster Hartley who introduced the hymn “Nearer, My God, to Thee” to the congregation.

Colne had deep ties to Methodism, although its introduction to the movement wasn’t the best first impression. Several times John Wesley visited the mill town, which had a tough reputation, and was always met with opposition and, in some cases, violence. During one visit, he was met by an angry mob, and one of his helpers was thrown to his death off a bridge.

However, Methodism was eventually embraced in Colne, and almost 10 Methodist chapels sprang up there.

Born in 1878, young Wallace studied at Colne’s Methodist day school, sang in Bethel’s choir and learned violin from a congregation member.

Less is known about the band member with the most “Methodist” name — John Wesley

Woodward — but the cellist was raised in the Methodist tradition, and his father was an officer at Hill Top Methodist Chapel in West Bromwich, England.

That fateful night

The Titanic sailed from Southampton, England, but its band was hired in Liverpool, making them, behind The Beatles, maybe the second-most famous band to emerge from that port city.

Hartley was among three of eight Titanic musicians who



were engaged to marry in the summer of 1912. Sadly, like many of his band mates, Hartley's intent was to make this his last sea voyage and return home to concert work instead.

Owing to the contract they'd signed with their Liverpool management, the musicians were considered second-class passengers, rather than part of the crew. Therefore, they were not under the order of the captain.

When the ship struck the iceberg around 11:40 p.m. on April 14, the band would have already finished playing for the night. Yet, something led them to gather up their instruments and head to the first-class lounge. One survivor later claimed that, as she passed the men, one of them told her they were "just going to give them a tune to cheer things up a bit."

"No one knows for sure why the band played," Turner said. "We do know that Wallace Hartley once told a friend about the power of music to prevent panic. My feeling is that he was a person of great moral authority as well as a born leader, and therefore his wish at that time was passed on to all the men."

Hartley's was one of only three musicians' bodies to be recovered and identified, and the only one returned to his home. He was given a hero's welcome as his funeral procession drew a crowd of 40,000 — almost twice Colne's population at the time — and several memorials were crafted in his and the band's honor.

Urban legend?

The two most popular beliefs surrounding the Titanic band are that they played until the ship went down, and their last song was “Nearer, My God, to Thee.”

Because no definitive eyewitness accounts exist to prove either, even those who have studied Titanic history disagree. And survivors had, in some cases, completely contradictory details about whether the band was playing, where they were playing and what song they were playing.

Once the band was playing on the deck (they began their last performance in the first-class lounge), it's not known how the two pianists would've participated, as there weren't pianos on deck. And once the boat began to list, it would've been difficult for the cellists to continue to play seated.

But Phillip Gowan, a Titanic historian, thinks the band did, indeed, play on.

“From all the accounts I've either read, or people who were there that I've interviewed, I do think the band played till the end,” Gowan said. “Most of the survivors that were in an area where they could've heard did claim that they heard the band playing.” Turner said, “I think they played for as long as they could. There were some reports of them playing while the water began to engulf them and others of them eventually packing their instruments into cases.”

As for the last song the group performed, no one can agree, all survivors are now deceased and no living person will ever know for certain. Since their goal was to keep spirits up and keep passengers calm, a hymn typically reserved for funerals may not have been the best choice. But once their outcome was certain, who knows?

“It's more likely that they played a French waltz called ‘Songe d'Automne.’ The most reliable accounts I've heard mention that song,” Gowan said.

“Wallace Hartley once told a friend that if he was on a ship going down, the best thing he could do would be to play a hymn like 'Nearer, My God, to Thee,’” Turner said.

“One of the most convincing accounts I read, by one of the sailors, was that at the end, there was a lone violinist playing ‘Nearer, My God, to Thee.’ I suspect that was Wallace Hartley.”

Photos Above: #1: The musicians of the Titanic. (A UMNS web-only photo collage by Kathleen Barry)

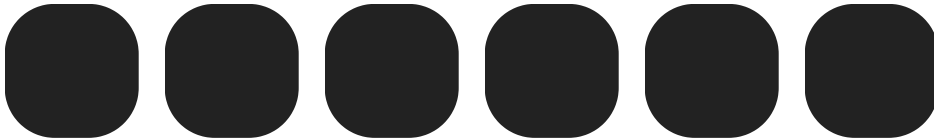
#2: A crowd of 40,000 lined the streets of Colne, England, to witness the May 18, 1912, funeral procession of Titanic band leader Wallace Hartley.

**Butler is editor of young adult content, United Methodist Communications, Nashville, Tenn.*

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Spring's Beauty

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Spring's Beauty

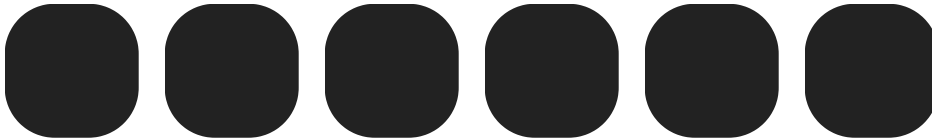
"Flowers appear on the earth;the season of singing has come,the cooing of doves is heard in our land."

Song of Solomon 2:12 (NIV)

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