

## **Men's Ministry Sunday**

### **A MOMENT FOR MISSION**

*All who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."*  
*Luke 18:14b*

Jesus condemned a Pharisee who boasted of his righteous behavior, while celebrating a hated tax collector who stood in the corner and confessed his sin.

About 68 million of the 94 million men in the United States do not attend any church. Some of them stay home because they are turned off by the seeming self-righteousness of some church members.

The absence of these men helps explain the membership decline of most mainline churches.

A study by Horner, Ralston and Sunde found that when a child becomes a participant in a Sunday school class or youth group, the family will follow about 3.5 percent of the time. If the mother begins attending a church, the rest of the family follows 17 percent of the time. But when a father comes to faith in Christ, the rest of the family follows 93 percent of the time.

If you reach the men, you reach their families.

The number one reason a man becomes interested in a church-related activity is because he is invited by another man.

He will probably attend a ball game, barbecue, or work on a Habitat House before he attends a worship service.

Today is Men's Ministry Sunday, a day to celebrate the many ways in which men contribute to the vitality of our congregation and an opportunity to think about ways we can reach men outside the church

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

ALMIGHTY GOD, we too often think we need more men before we can begin to transform our community. Remind us of how 12 men changed the world. On this Men's Ministry Sunday, let us not judge the effectiveness of our ministry by the number of participants, but only by how we serve others and make your gospel plain. Amen

### **NEWSLETTER NUGGET**

Our church has a treasure chest. No it's not a hidden. It's in plain sight. It simply has not been opened.

The treasure is a group of elderly United Methodist men who meet together for worship, study and prayer. These retired engineers, physicians, attorneys, carpenters, plumbers, accountants, and financial advisers have a wealth of experience knowledge and skills.

In spite of the desire of church members for vocational guidance, help on home repairs, financial information and a host of other needs, this treasure chest remains unopened.

While these men are willing, they sometimes feel their service is no longer wanted.

This Sunday is Men's Ministry Sunday, an opportunity to celebrate the service of United Methodist Men as teachers, ushers, committee members, and devoted stewards. We know we could not do without these men.

This coming Sunday is also a day when we open this treasure chest and explore ways in which we can utilize the talents, knowledge and skills of retired men. We thank God for their willingness to serve.