

# The Messenger

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January 2006

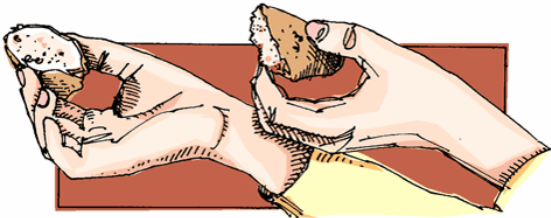
Emmanuel United Church of Christ  
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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR

January 1

The Worship Service on January 1 will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion and will be followed by a coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to stay and share a coffee (or soft drink) and snack with everyone.



BREAKING BREAD TOGETHER

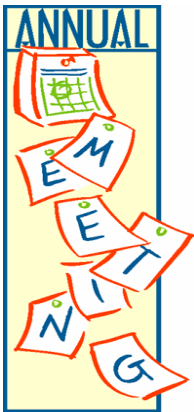
### WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP

Our Wednesday Evening Worship begins at 6:00 pm. This mid-week service emphasizes self-reflection and includes the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please join us at the Lord's Table and bring a friend.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

January 8

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on January 8. There will be a Covered Dish dinner after the Worship Service and the Annual Meeting will be held after that. The purpose of the meeting is to adopt the 2005 budget, to hear committee reports, and to elect members to the Consistory and the Cemetery Association.



### CONSISTORY MEETINGS

January 5 and 19

The Consistory will meet on Thursday, January 5 at 6:30 p.m. for the Reorganizational Meeting. The regular

business meeting of the Consistory will be held on January 19 at 6:30 p.m.

**ADMIT ONE**

YOUTH GROUP  
AFTERNOON

AT THE  
MOVIES

January 15

Everyone from our congregation and surrounding communities is invited to join the Youth Group on January 15 after the Worship Service to go see The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. Details for this event and other upcoming events are inside this issue.

### TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will not meet during the months of January and February.

**LÓÖK  
at THIS!**

The **deadline** for information for the February Newsletter is **January 18**. Any information provided after that date will not be published. Please get all information to me before that date. Thanks, Denise

### The Food Bank

The food bank at Emmanuel is open by appointment. We are well stocked and would like to share our bounty with others. Stop by or call the church office if we can help you or someone you know.

## From the Pastor's Desk:

As I prepare this letter for our newsletter, I look out on the new Year 2006 as it stretches out before us all.

**Together** we have much to accomplish over the next twelve to eighteen months. My challenge as your

interim pastor is to work with you in the ensuing months to help the Church of Jesus Christ here at Emmanuel UCC prepare for calling a new Pastor and Teacher; a new Shepherd to lead this flock of Christians.

Together we will need to look at our past, identify our mission for 2006 and beyond as we look to the future so that we can identify the destination God intends for us; so that we can both cast and catch a vision that is just right for us here. It is my prayer that each and every faithful member of our church will desire to be a part of our destiny. If you have been absent from worship for whatever reason, consider returning to put your thoughts in the mix. If you see something we have never done, tell a member of the Consistory or Search Committee. Should you see that you want to take on more of a leadership role than you have in years gone by please tell me. We will be asking you what specific things you see which we can do together to help enable our Search Committee be the most efficient committee it can be.

Their task is a difficult yet meaningful one as they help Emmanuel UCC define our unique personality and direction. We will keep you informed as to their decisions as they move toward preparing us to call a new Pastor and Teacher. If you have suggestions for me or our Elders please call and tell us or write us a note. We will not be able to fulfill your new ideas if we don't know what they are. Don't be surprised if I invite you to a brief meeting with a few other members of our church to simply talk about where we have been and where we perceive us to be going. I hope that you would be able to take part in meaningful discussions. May God guide us as we enter yet another era as the people of Christ here in Mountain Top/Dorrance.

In Christ,

Pastor Fred



Loretta Eigenbrod, mother of Gary Eigenbrod, went home to the Lord on December 6, 2006. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gary and his family in their time of sorrow.

### MEMBERSHIP LIST UPDATE

We  
to  
the

# THANKS YOU'S

need  
get

membership list, birthday list and anniversary list up-to-date.

Do we have...

*your correct address?  
your correct phone number?  
your birthday listed  
correctly?  
have your anniversary date?  
your @e-mail.address?*

If you have any changes, additions or corrections, they can be noted on the sheet on the table in the Narthex or call the church office at 868-5675. Thanks for your help in keeping our church records accurate. Deadline for these changes before the next directory update is Jan. 31. Denise

I would like to thank everyone who helped

*Thanks*  
for your  
participation

with the Altar Committee responsibilities this past year. I appreciate all the time you volunteer to prepare our sanctuary. Mary Rinehimer

Esther Heller would like to thank everyone for the cards, calls, prayers and concerns while she was in the hospital and convalescing at home.

Ellie & Ted Arnold would like to wish everyone a happy and safe New Year!

## CONGREGATIONAL

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The Date for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation is January 8 after the Worship Service. This meeting is to approve the budget, vote on members for the Consistory and the Cemetery Association, and hear committee reports.

Each of you has received by now the Stewardship Opportunities letter which was included with the mailing of the proposed 2006 Budget. A flyer and one or two response cards were mailed to each household (depending on the number of members in the house). Additional response cards are on the table in the bell tower alongside the box into which you can deposit your covenant card. Please seriously consider how you can add to Emmanuel UCC's assembly of talents to further the work of our Lord in our communities and outlying areas.

Youth  
Achievements!

Amanda Kemmerer was listed on the Honor Roll of MMI. Congratulations Mande.



The next event planned for the Youth Group is open to everyone. We will go to see **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe on Sunday, January 15**, after the Worship Service. The Youth Group includes students and young adults from grade 7 and up. Anyone who is not in this age group is still invited to come with us to events. If you are in grade 6 and below, we need a parent or other adult to attend with you. This movie is one of the great stories of our time. It is one of the Chronicles of Narnia books written by C.S. Lewis and includes many references to our Christian beliefs. Since C.S. Lewis wrote his stories for children, they can understand the basic images as they relate to our Lord Jesus. But he also wrote the books to help older youth and adults in their understanding of the underlying concepts of the Christian religion. We hope many of you will join us.

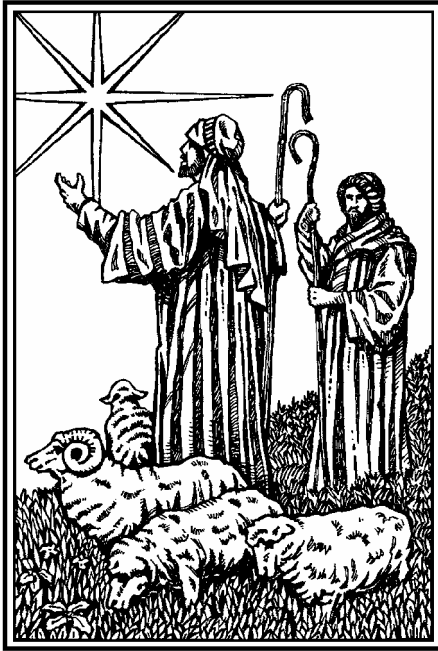
We will be joining many other youth around the United States in February as we *endure* the 30 Hour Famine. The theme is *Fast for Food* (as opposed to fast food). More details will be in the February newsletter.



I would like to sincerely thank everyone who made this year's Christmas Program, A Shepherd's Story, such a GREAT SUCCESS!! The compliments keep coming and all I can say is that I love being among such gifted and giving people. The props were outstanding and all the thanks for them goes to Justin and Eric Rinehimer, Marc, Marc and Connie Davis, and the Farrell family. I keep hearing how well the speakers and singers knew their lines and how easy it was to understand their words. You really spoke and sang clearly and shared the true meaning of that first Christmas – God's Son is sent to give everlasting life to EVERYONE, not just the privileged few. Thank you, again, to all who participated in our program.

Love,

Denise



### **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2006**

#### **Jan. 1 – First Sunday after Christmas**

Organist: Orceil Bloss

Greeters: Chelsea Myers & Alecia Myers

#### **Jan. 8 – Baptism of Christ (First Sunday after Epiphany)**

Organist: Don Eroh

Greeters: Bob & Gwen Hight

#### **Jan. 15– Second Sunday after Epiphany**

Organist: Orceil Bloss

Greeters: Holly Hoffman Richie Lenahan

#### **Jan. 22 - Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Organist: Don Eroh

Greeters: Dave and Rosemary Myers

#### **Jan. 29 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Organist: Harriet Seward

Greeters: Connie Davis and Caroline Cronce

#### **Our Cleaning Volunteers**

Dave & Rosemary Myers

Clifford & Gladys Readler

Marc & Connie Davis

John, Linda, & J.P. Jankowski

**The PNEC Disaster Response Team** is responding to those needs of our brothers and sisters in Florida. We are planning a “Work Camp week” for ages 15 and older, Monday, July 31, 2006 through Saturday, August 5, 2005. If you feel the call to respond to our work camp trip, please contact Linda Lenart at 610 434-4363 or e-mail her at [llenhart@ptd.net](mailto:llenhart@ptd.net).

The Lay Ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century courses of the PNEC will hold a Church History and UCC Polity program on January 14, 2006, from 9 am to 3 pm at First UCC, Schuylkill Haven. The Rev. Dr. Karen Elizabeth King will present the program. Registration forms, with a list of recommended reading, are on the table in the Narthex.

### **UCC CONFERENCE NEWS**

This section is provided to inform you of our local Conference and Denomination’s activities and projects so that we can better understand our role as members of the United Church of Christ.

