

The Messenger

January 2006

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, January 7, after the Worship Service. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the budget for 2007 and elect members to the Consistory. See details on page 2.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday, January 7, during our regular Sunday Worship Service. A coffee hour will follow the Worship Service and everyone is welcome to bring a "goodie" to share.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

The Boy Scouts are offering to dispose of your Christmas tree on Saturday, January 13. You can drop off your tree in the lower parking lot and it will be chipped up and taken to local municipal parks for their playgrounds.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

CONSISTORY MEETING

The Consistory will meet on Thursday, January 18, at 6:30 pm for their regular meeting.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The message of the first Christmas was presented on December 24 at the morning Worship Service. It was a wonderful retelling of the Nativity with the cast and Christmas Choir bringing the scenes to life. Devin Stein got to show his versatility as he acted the part of Isaiah announcing the coming of the Prince of Peace and then exited to reappear as Joseph. Pastor Ted played the part of Gabriel and proclaimed to an astonished Mary (Glynis Dean) that she had been chosen to be the mother of Jesus. The shepherds, played by Irene Hoch, Taylor Farrell and Nate Kamowski, were wonderful as they responded to the angels' tunes as sung by Kelly Madigan (the lead angel) and Courtney Kania, Kristen Kania, Autumn Atkinson, and Morgan Rinehimer. The congregation was invited to join in as we sang Christmas carols to highlight certain scenes, especially when then "littlest angels" (Kristen Kania, Morgan Rinehimer and Brooke Rinehimer) adorably sang the first verse of "Away in a Manger". Three regal kings were portrayed by Meredith Martin, Katie Rosser and Marc Davis. The story was all pulled together by the narration of Mary Martin as she read the scripture of the birth of Christ.

The songs also included parts for solos and duets. Glynis Dean sang the Song of Mary (Magnificat) and Kelly Madigan announced the birth of Jesus with "The Angel's Proclamation. Glynis also sang "A Star, A Birth, God's Love", a song in which the Christmas Choir echoed the wonder of God's grace to us in sending his Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Meredith Martin and Katie Rosser encouraged us to tell the birth of Jesus to all the world with their duet part in "Spread a Little Love Around". Meredith and Katie also showed their talents as pianists as they accompanied the littlest angels on "Away in a Manger" and Meredith played "O Come, O Come Emmanuel", the first Christmas carol of the Pageant.

We were so happy to see so many of our congregation attend service and participate in our pageant. Together, we can spread the love of Jesus throughout the world.

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Calendar Of Events

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR January 7

On Sunday, January 7, we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled after Worship. Our Coffee Hour will be held thereafter.

CONSISTORY MEETING January 18

The Consistory will meet on January 18 at 6:30 pm.

TWILIGHTERS January & February

The Twilighters will not meet during the months of January and February but expect to resume meetings in March. Any changes to this will be announced in the Sunday bulletins.

UPCOMING DATES

Feb. 18 Transfiguration Sunday
Feb. 21 Ash Wednesday

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER INFO January 22

The deadline for information for the February Messenger is January 22. Please get all information to me before this date. Thanks, Denise

From The Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

The Advent and Christmas seasons were so special for us. We were so happy to spend this year with all of you. We felt as happy and as "at home" as we ever have at this time of the year. The Hanging of the Greens service went beautifully and we appreciated everyone's help with it. The sanctuary looked fabulous and it was a joy to behold it. It was a pleasure to hear the members of our congregations share their stories and memories of Christmas when they told about why their crèche was important to them.

We are looking forward to starting the New Year together here. Please remember the congregational meeting on January 7, after church. In addition to the importance of the meeting it is a great time for us to begin 2007 by being together.

Peace,
Pastor Ted

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Emmanuel United Church of Christ will be held on January 7, 2007, immediately following the morning Worship Service. 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. Copies of the 2007 budget are on the tables in the bell tower and next to the door to the Fellowship Hall or you can obtain one from the Church Secretary during office hours, Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The nominees for the Consistory are Barry Myers and Eileen Bonczek. The nominee for the Cemetery Association is William Eckrote.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2007

Jan. 7 – Baptism of Christ (1st Sunday after Epiphany)

Organist: Harriet Seward
Greeters: Roy and Betty Baker

Jan. 14 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

Organist: Orceil Bloss
Greeters: Alecia Myers and Glynis Dean

Jan. 21 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Organist: Don Eroh
Greeters: Doris Yurchak and Connie Myers

Jan. 28 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Morning Worship:

Organist: Wayne Mast
Greeters: Sami Dauber and Gary Eigenbrod

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave & Rosemary Myers
Clifford & Gladys Readler
Marc & Connie Davis
John, Linda, & J.P. Jankowski

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for their calls, cards and visits and Pastor Ted's kind concern during my recent hospitalization. Mary Rinehimer

I would like to thank everyone for their visits, cards and phone calls of concern as I underwent heart surgery. It was very encouraging to speak with those of you who had experienced this procedure. Thanks to Pastor Ted for being there for me. Gladys Peters

We received thank you letters from Phoebe-Devitt Homes and Bethany Children's Home for our gifts to their organizations. These donations were made to fulfill our annual allocation as provided in the 2006 budget and distributed funds as designated by special offerings. Thanks to your offerings to the General Fund, we are able to keep our promises to support these worthwhile organizations. The letters are on the bulletin board in the bell tower.

Our Condolences

We offer our sympathy to Sanjay and Roseanne (Myers) Kamat on the passing of his mother, Padmini Kamat, on December 5, 2006. Our prayers and concerns go out to you in your time of mourning.

CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

2007 ENVELOPE BOXES

You may pick up your 2007 Envelope Boxes from the table in the Narthex.

MAGAZINES FOR JOHNSON'S HOME

Cindy Heller is collecting used magazines for the Johnson's Retirement Home which they love to read and use for their projects. If you have any old magazines, please see her.

MISSION TRIP UPDATE

Becky Broyan is preparing for her trip to Nicaragua on January 11. Like all other students at Lancaster Theological Seminary, she is required to participate in a mission trip and since Becky has already been to Nicaragua, it only seemed natural for her to return there again. The cost of the trip will be approximately \$3,000. Through our recent fundraisers, scholarship fund donations and special offering, we have raised \$3,011. We are still collect money through the special offering through December 31. These contributions will be used to reimburse the scholarship fund for Becky to use for her tuition and books.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

BUS TRIP TO SEE "THE GIFT"

Over 30 members and friends of Emmanuel gathered on December 16 to travel to see the Live Nativity presentation, "The Gift". It is a very inspiring portrayal of the events leading up to and surrounding the birth of our Savior and everyone who came to see it returned home knowing the true reason for Christmas.

From the Sunday School Superintendent

During the Christmas Party on December 16 the kids brought fruit for the baskets for our shut-ins. We do this every year because of the wonderful warm feeling that we get from seeing the faces of those who receive the baskets. Our shut-ins are truly thankful for the baskets, not just because they have some extra fruit, but because it shows them that they are not forgotten and our children remember them.

I also delivered the care packages for distribution to the people served by the McKinney Clinic. Bernie Baluta was especially grateful for the new and "gently used" toys and stuffed animals which we had wrapped during the Christmas Party. These gifts were handed out to children, most of whom did not know whether they would have any gift for Christmas. Can you imagine Christmas without gifts? Many of us can't, but it is a sad reality for these children. Thanks to you, these children had a happier Christmas than they expected. Thank you for all your generosity.

Love to My Christian Family, Sharon E.

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS

Crestwood High School Honor Roll:

Principal's Honors: Courtney Day, Stacy Prelewicz
High Honors: Matthew Farrell, Jordan Pickering, Gary Eigenbrod, Barry Myers, Derek Stein, Bobby Madigan
Honors: Dylan Atkinson, Travis Grosz, Brian Deluca, Chelsea Myers, Kyle Belanchik, Mike Daniels, Richie Lenahan, Matt Price

Keep learning – whatever you put in your brains can never be taken from you.

Alecia Myers was awarded Student of the Month for November for 7th grade students. Congratulations.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Patricia Rinehimer	10 Tarah Slusser	22 Dorothy Heller
2 Agnes Fornett	10 Brian Ring	22 Mary Horwath
3 Frank Kastreva, Sr.	11 Eli Hoyt	22 Jacob Mylet
4 Kari Hoch	13 Chris Dietrich	25 Christopher Peters
5 Sherri Hoch	14 Marvin Rinehimer, Jr.	26 Ethan Hoyt
7 Kevin Price	14 Rhonda Madigan	26 Tristan Oldershaw
8 Catherine Rinehimer	15 Amanda Kemmerer	28 Mildred Myers
9 Donna Aumick	16 James Cybulski	28 James Rinehimer
9 Kelly Cope	19 Maegan Grosz	29 Kara Spangler
9 Mark McNeal	20 Keegan Farrell	29 Mary Martin
	21 Albert Myers	

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

January 3, 1989Ron and Teresa Day
January 13, 1990Bill and Mary Martin