

# The Messenger

**JANUARY 2008**

**JANUARY 19 AND 20**

**TENTATIVE MEET AND GREET AND TRIAL SERMON SUNDAY**

The Search Committee has located a very promising candidate for our new Pastor. We have tentatively set Saturday, January 19, as the day to meet the candidate and will provide details on this event as more information is finalized. Sunday, January 20, will then be the date for the candidate to present a trial sermon.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 6**

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, January 6, after the Worship Service. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the budget for 2007 and elect members to the Consistory and the Cemetery Association. Nominees for the position of Consistory Deacon are Ron Rinehimer, Don Myers and Chris Dietrich. The Cemetery Association nominee is Stanley Stein.

**COMMUNION AND COVERED DISH LUNCH**

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday, January 6, during our regular Sunday Worship Service with a covered dish following the Annual Meeting.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Those of us who were able to brave the nasty weather on Sunday, December 23, were treated to a wonderful program by the children of Emmanuel, Stairville UMC and Faith UMC. Even though the weather was truly frightful (what a downpour, just before 5:00 pm), many of you came to show your support and love. The potluck supper was awesome with so many dishes. It was easy for eyes to be larger than stomachs, even if you just took a small sample of everything. After enjoying our meal with our friends and families, the children took the stage and presented "The Best Christmas Present Ever". The lesson of the story was to explain to the Christmas presents that the best gift of all is Jesus. Mom was played by Glynis Dean with Tyler Brown in the role of Dad. Their two children were portrayed by Mackenzie Yenchik and Joshua Van Gordon. Alecia Myers greeted everyone and set the scene. The Christmas presents were Kelly Velehoski as the toy dog; Rachelle Velehoski as the "buy me" doll; Glynis Dean as the race car driver; Robyn Knight as the "lettuce patch kid"; and Michelle Bernetski as the teddy bear. As the toys argued among themselves as to which was the best present, the Nativity Set, lead by Gabriel (Allison Bernetski) explained the true story of Christmas. Joseph (Devin Stein) and Mary (Kimmy Bernetski) started the lesson with Sammy Daniel in the role of the innkeeper, Chris Kremski as the soldier, Katie Hosage as the Townswoman, Kelly Madigan, Dylan Brown and Brett Vital as shepherds, Alecia Myers as the lead angel with cherub angels played by Bethany Newell, Brooke Rinehimer, Reese Yenchik and Madison Van Gordon. Even the animals told their story. Nate Kamowski portrayed the donkey which Mary rode and Morgan Rinehimer was the cow who shared her manger with baby Jesus. The wise men arrived with their gifts, played by Aaron Baratta, Ethan Van Gordon and Ricky Hosage. By the time the Nativity characters were done, the Christmas presents realized that Jesus really is the greatest gift and thought themselves silly for arguing between themselves.

We would like to thank everyone who helped us present our program, from those who shared food for our dinner to those who brought props and prepared costumes. Thank you also to those who brought the children to practices. Our programs could not be done without all your help.

**Emmanuel  
United Church  
of Christ**

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## From The Pastor's Desk

Each New Year

Each year we find ourselves wishing that Christmas might last forever. And we resolve that we will become more Christ-like in the coming new year by losing weight, or becoming less angry less often, or to tell our loved ones how much we love them at least once a day, and so on and so forth.

I have my own wish list for Emmanuel and it goes something like this:

1. That Emmanuel retain a wonderful, thoughtful and “musically talented” person as their new pastor.
2. That this person receive the same kind reception that I did when I began.
3. That attendance return to a more normal level.
4. That the Sunday School grows.
5. And this is where you add your thoughts to mine.
6. And in all circumstances that the Lord continue his work here now and well into the future. Now that we are nearing the end, perhaps, of my time here, I want to say that I love you all and wish you the very best.

God bless you all. Pastor Ted

### Thank You

I believe in the saying “angles work among us”; many of them attend church at Emmanuel. I would like to thank Pastor Ted and all of you for all you have done for me and my family to help us get through the tragedy of the loss of my only grandson, Eric, due to black ice that slid him into the path of a tractor trailer on his way to class at Bloomsburg University.

Yours in Christian Love,  
Norma Jenkins

I would like to thank you all for the beautiful poinsettia which was given to me when you came caroling. I am glad to know you are thinking of me.

George Taney

Jim and I would like to thank everyone for their expressions of love and sympathy when his Dad, James W. Dean, passed away. Thank you so much for the cards, prayers and for being part of our Christian family. We would also like to thank Cindy, Lois, Mary and Judy for helping with the Funeral Lunch.

Denise

I am very grateful for my Christmas gift from all of you. It is wonderful to have a caring Christian family and I just want you to know how much I appreciate all of you.  
Denise

Thank you to those who help around the church:

- Dave Myers, Jim Rinehimer, Hilbert Eigenbrod and Cliff Readler for salting and clearing the sidewalks and parking lots.
- Ronnie and Lisa Rinehimer; Sharon and Gary Eigenbrod; Marc and Connie Davis; and all the Sunday School teachers for their leadership to our youth. Children are instructed in Christian Education, parties are planned, missions accomplished, events coordinated and children enjoy fellowship with other youthful believers because of your efforts.
- Lex Koons and his tractor, which can do more than cut the grass in the summertime – it also works great on ice in the parking lot.
- Our janitorial staff for spending so much time and effort keeping our church clean. Many people do not know just what a challenging position this is and you deserve a great big **THANK YOU**.
- The members of the Search Committee for sifting through umpteen profiles, making dozens of calls to prospective candidates and traveling to neutral pulpits in order to find the best Pastor for us.
- ??? – everyone else – Who is the church? U R!  
CH \_\_ CH

Without the people, the church is just an empty building.  
**There are so many of our members who give unselfishly of their time and talents all throughout the year. Thank you to all of you who come and support God's work through this fellowship of believers.**

## Our Condolences

We wish to send our sincere sympathy to Jim, Denise and Glynis Dean on the passing of his father, James W. Dean on November 30, 2007.

Our condolences go out to Norma Jenkins, her son, Duane, and his family at the passing of Duane's son, Duane "Eric" Jenkins on December 5, 2007. We pray for God's peace in your time of sorrow.

## CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

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**TWILIGHTERS  
No Meeting in January**

**CONSISTORY MEETING  
January 17**

The Consistory will meet on Thursday, January 17, at 6:30 pm.

### 2008 ENVELOPE BOXES

You may pick up your 2008 Envelope Boxes from the table in the Narthex.

### MICROWAVE NEEDED FOR FELLOWSHIP HALL

Our microwave has seen its last leftover and we are in need of replacing it. Anyone who would like to donate one or contribute to purchasing a new one, please see Hilbert Eigenbrod.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

We are planning for Soup-er-Bowl Sunday in February and the 30-Hour Famine which will be in either February or March. So keep your calendar open for these mission events. You all did a terrific job last year during the famine and I was proud to take you shopping at Mr. Z's to purchase food for the food bank with the money you raised during Soup-er-Bowl Sunday.

Marc Davis

## From the Sunday School Superintendent

### CHRISTMAS PARTY GIFTS DELIVERED TO SHUT-INS AND MCKINNEY CLINIC

During the Christmas Party on December 15, our children wrapped new and "gently used" toys and stuffed animals for the children of the McKinney Clinic. There were so many gifts that they filled and were piled high on one of the tables in the Fellowship Hall. We also gathered together all the Care Packages for the adults and children of the Clinic.

The children had fun putting together the fruit baskets for the shut-ins. Each child wanted to put together their own, but, thank goodness, we don't have enough shut-ins for all those baskets. So they settled on combining their efforts and putting together seven baskets.

Our next project will be donations to purchase St. Valentine's Day candy for the McKinney Clinic.

Thank you for all your support, Lisa Rinehimer

## YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS

Our own star of screen and stage (well, at least stage) will be performing again at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts. Sami Dauber will perform in "A Look into the Woods" on January 11 and 13, 2008. For more information, please call the Darte Center or see Tammy or Sami Dauber.

### Crestwood High School Honor Roll:

Principals Honors: Jordan Pickering, Barry Myers

High Honors: Marc Davis, Jacob Mylet, Michael Daniels, Robert Madigan

Honors: Forrest Atkinson, Sami Dauber, Dylan Atkinson, Matthew Farrell, Travis Grosz, Kelly Sufrinko, Gary Eigenbrod, Chelsea Myers, Derek Stein, Kyle Belanchik, Holly Hoffman, Stacy Prelewicz

### Crestwood Middle School:

High Honors: Rachelle Heller, Courtney Kania, Alecia Myers

Honors: Justin Rinehimer, Kelly Madigan, Jared Yakscoe

### Rice Elementary School:

Principal's Honors: Glynis Dean

Honors: Autumn Atkinson, Travis Pickering, Devin Stein

## UPCOMING DATES

Feb. 6 Ash Wednesday  
Feb. 10 First Sunday in Lent

### DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER INFO

**January 21**

The deadline for information for the February Messenger is January 21. Please get all information to me before this date. Thanks, Denise

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2008

### Jan. 6 - Epiphany

Greeters: Dave and Rosemary Myers

### Jan. 13 – Baptism of Christ

Greeters: Connie Davis and Caroline Cronce

### January 20 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

Greeters: Alecia Myers and Sami Dauber

### Jan. 27 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Greeters: Matt Price and Richie Lenahan

### OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

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

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

January 3, 1989 .....Ron and Teresa Day  
January 13, 1990 .....Bill and Mary Martin  
January 14, 2005 .....Bob and Carol Duffy