

The Messenger

May 2008

SUNDAY, MAY 4

COMMUNION & COFFEE HOUR

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday, May 4, during our regular Sunday Worship Service. Please bring a “goodie” to share and stay for coffee hour after worship.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

We will begin our gathering for the Strengthen the Church Offering on Sunday, May 4. The funds raised by this offering help to build up existing churches and start new ones, develop lay and pastoral leadership, promote youth and young adult ministries and support the God is Still Speaking ministry. Offering envelopes will be in the pews and we encourage you to give generously to the support of this mission.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

VBS PLANNING MEETING

The next meeting will be May 7 at 7 pm. Our theme for this year is “Beach Party – Surfin’ through the Scriptures”. It is a lively program centered around a surf/beach theme which teaches “Beach Be-Attitudes” – Be Obedient; Be Kind; Be Forgiving; Be Bold (the good way); and Believe. Please see inside this issue for more information on how you can get involved.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

PENTECOST SUNDAY

In celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit, everyone is invited to wear red on Sunday, May 11. So find that special outfit and let’s paint the town red!!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, May 14, at 12 noon for a covered dish dinner.

MAY 15, 16, AND 17

HAM AND CHICKEN DINNER

Please see inside this issue for dates and times to help out with our annual spring fundraiser.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BAKE SALE

As it does at each of our dinners, the Sunday School will hold a bake sale on May 17. The bake sales are a major source of income to purchase our curriculum, so please support us and thank you for all you do for our children, youth and adult programs.

MAY 31

SUNDAY SCHOOL YARD SALE

The annual Sunday School Yard sale will be on Saturday, May 31. Please see inside this issue for more details.

**Emmanuel
United Church
of Christ**

7768 Blue Ridge Trail
Mountain Top PA 18707
www.emmanuel-ucc.org
emmanuel_ucc@hotmail.com

Rev. Penny Dollar
15 Old North Road
Mountain Top, PA 18707
717 497-4640
preacherdollar@yahoo.com

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Congregational Corner | p. 3 |
| From the Pastor | p. 2 |
| Ham & Chicken Dinner | p. 3 |
| In the News | p. 4 |
| Prayer Retreat | p. 4 |
| Sunday School News | p. 3 |
| Thank You’s | p. 2 |
| Twilighters | p. 3 |
| Upcoming Dates | p. 4 |
| Volunteer Schedule | p. 4 |
| Youth Achievements | p. 3 |
| Youth Group Events | p. 4 |

From The Pastor's Desk

Today I have this to say – I really hope and pray that we can share a vision of what Emmanuel is to do for the future of our church and our service to God. Right now I say that out of purely selfish reasons. I really don't want to see any boxes that need to be packed or unpacked (except those I still haven't done) for quite some time. Come by and see me at the church office – things are pretty straight there - or at my home office. That was the first room in the house to get sorted in order to work there. It is a nice quiet room and you are welcome there as well. Finally, our home phone has been hooked up. The first time Frontier tried they hooked up the wrong line but now it seems to be all right. However, the base to my wireless phone system which houses my answering machine has yet to be unearthed so you can't leave me a message at my home number at this time. Hopefully that will be unpacked and hooked up in the next few days.

I am enjoying getting to know you but please be patient with me when I ask your name over and over. I will eventually get it in my brain. Your welcome has been wonderful for Archie and me. I am anxious to work with all of you on different programs around the church. And don't hesitate to ask me anything or tell me if something is bothering you. I like to be up front with issues that may arise. I hope we can work together as a family of faith with love, listening, and understanding.

When my 42 year old son was 6 he gave me a big bright colorful plastic sign that says

SMILE

It is always one of the first things I unpack and hang up when I move to a new place – and there have been several in those 36 years. I hang it in a prominent place in my bedroom so I see it every day. I think he paid a nickel for the sign at a church yard sale and at the time he said he gave it to me because it reminded him of me. Very well spent 5 cents.

For me it is not a difficult thing to “smile” because I know that God loves me and will help through all adversity. God gave us Jesus so that we could have abundant joy. I will cherish our time together and know that we will find joy in our work, play, and learning together. May God grant us willing hearts to move forward as we make God's world a better place – first – right here at Emmanuel and then as we work in the community and beyond.

Blessings!

Pastor Penny

Thank You

Thank you to Gene Broyan for waxing the floors in the kitchen, back room and bathrooms. They sparkle just like new (or even brighter than new).

Thanks to Pack 379, St. James Lutheran Church, for their food donations to the Food Bank which they collected by “Scouting for Food” held in March.



Many long hours were spent by our Search Committee so that we could celebrate the arrival of our new installed pastor, Rev. Penny Dollar. The committee members deserve our appreciation for their commitment and perseverance and we gratefully acknowledge our thankfulness for their steadfast dedication to their task. Thank you, again, from all of us.

Special Thanks also to everyone who helped with the potluck lunch on March 30 to wish Pastor Ted and Margie farewell. Many members stayed to say their good-byes and tell the Goods how much their support and commitment to our church meant to us during our search process. The gifts were especially meaningful and we received a note of thanks from Pastor Ted and Margie for our thoughtfulness.

Thanks are also in order for everyone who helped welcome Pastor Penny on April 6 during our monthly coffee hour. The goodies were delicious (as usual) and it was a wonderful chance to mingle and chat with our new Pastor.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Alberdeen Road clean-up. It's great to have members who care about God's world and show their stewardship through their actions.

Marc Davis

CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

MAY 11

Pentecost "Wear Red" Sunday

Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian church. On this day, the Holy Spirit came to the disciples and they were given the courage to leave the safety of their hiding place and go out into the streets to proclaim the Gospel. The color for the altar paraments is red and, in order to make our sanctuary even more colorful, everyone is encouraged to wear red in celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Mother's Day

May 11 is also Mother's Day and we hope to see all the women of our church in Worship. Whether you ever had children as part of your household or not, you are all special role models for our youth.

TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters are planning a covered dish lunch for Wednesday, May 14, at 12:00 pm.

CONSISTORY MEETING

The Consistory will meet on Thursday, May 15, at 6:30 pm.

GRADUATE SUNDAY

June 1

On June 1, we want to honor our members who are graduating by presenting them with a gift and recognizing their achievement. Please let all our graduates know about this date.

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS

Glynis Dean will be participating in the Rice Elementary Play on May 17 at 7:00 pm. She will be playing the role of Stephanie in *The Monster in the Closet*. Stephanie is the friend of Emily and is on a sleepover at Emily's house when they are amazed by seeing a monster come out of her closet. The play then centers around Emily, Stephanie and their friends as they try to find a way to catch the monster.

Sami Dauber is again showing her acting talent as a member of the Wilkes Conservatory. The Conservatory is presenting *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat* on May 23 and 24 at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts. For ticket information, please call the Darte Center.

HAM & CHICKEN DINNER SCHEDULE

- May 15 Ham & Chicken Dinner Prep at 6:30 pm
 Set up tables
 Cut cabbage & clean carrots & peppers
- May 16 Food Prep:
 Peel potatoes at 7:00 **am**
 Make pickled cabbage at 8:00 **am**
 Clean Chicken at 6 pm
- May 17 Finish preparing food at 8:00 **am**
 Serve Dinner from 3:00 to 7:00 pm
 Clean up from 7:00 pm

There's a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex and next to the Fellowship Hall doorway. Pick a date and a job and pitch in!! There are plenty of jobs to fill. Thursday and Friday's tasks deal with getting the hall set up and food ready. On Saturday, the final food prep is done in the morning. For the Dinner itself, the first job that comes to mind is waiters and we always need them, but we also need people to bus tables, dish out food, serve drinks, etc. We especially need people to help with clean up. Everything has to be washed, dried and put away until the next dinner, the hall and church are vacuumed, and tables and chairs rearranged or stored away. If you're not sure what to do, just ask Dave Myers, Connie Miller or Denise Dean. They'll find work for you! Thanks for using your time for the good of our church.

From the Sunday School Superintendent

May is going to be a busy month for the Sunday School. We are having two fundraisers: our **bake sale at the Ham and Chicken Dinner** on May 17 and our **Annual Yard Sale** on May 31.

If anyone would like to donate baked goods for either of these dates, we would really appreciate it. All donations will be a great help. We are hoping for a variety of items including breads, pies, cakes and cookies.

The Yard Sale on May 31 will begin at 8 am and last until 4 pm. We will have inside tables available for \$10 each and outside tables for \$8 each. There will also be food and beverages for sale. Donations of soups, breads/buns, and desserts to sell for breakfast and lunch would be great.

I also want to announce that **May 25 will be the last day for Sunday School**. It has been great to see all our children, youth and adults coming together to learn more about their faith and how they can live their lives in service to God and Jesus.

Thank you for all your support, Lisa Rinehimer

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

HAM AND CHICKEN DINNER SERVICE PROJECT

May 15 and 17

All our youth are encouraged to help out with the preparations for the Ham and Chicken Dinner. On Thursday, May 15, you can help with setting up the tables and cutting up vegetables beginning at 6:30 pm. The activities on Friday are in the morning and, since you should be in school, you won't be able to help then. But on Saturday, May 17, there is final food preparation beginning at 8 am which usually lasts to about 11:00 am or noon. Anyone who can help wait on tables, serve drinks, bus tables, or run for veggies can arrive around 2:30-3:00 pm or anytime after that. We can always use help whenever you come. We usually need people to start cleaning up around 6:30-7:00 pm. That's when everything – tables, chairs, dishes, utensils, etc. – gets its final washing and put away. Floors need to be vacuumed or washed, too, and the Sunday School rooms put back in order. Denise made a sign-up sheet, so pick a time and join in helping out at your church.

FUTURE DATES:

May or June – **Movie date to see "Prince Caspian"**, the next movie in the "Chronicle of Narnia" series. The movie premieres in our area on May 16 and we will set a date after that.

June – **Tour of St. Mark's Church**, Jim Thorpe
Thanks, Marc Davis

PRAYER AND HEALING RETREAT

May 23 to 25

A retreat to explore Healing Prayer is being held beginning at 7 pm on Friday, May 23, until 2:30 pm on Sunday, May 25. It is an introduction to healing prayer and wholeness as a dynamic process leading to the wholeness that God wills for us and Jesus represented in his ministry. Pastor Penny is among a group of talented ordained and lay ministers who will present this program at Hartman Center, Milroy, PA. This is one of the many events Pastor Penny coordinated while with the Penn Central Conference and you are invited to join her and her colleagues on this retreat. Copies of the brochure outlining the retreat and the reservation form are on the table in the Narthex. Although Pastor Penny is one of the pivotal leaders, she will be leaving the retreat early in order to conduct our service here at Emmanuel on Sunday morning, but you are invited to stay and complete the program.

In the News

Autumn Atkinson is pictured again, but this time without the soccer team. Autumn is also a member of Girl Scout Troop 3825 which recently visited Urbanski Farms, the only maple sugaring farm in Luzerne County. That was certainly a sweet lesson.

Morgan Rinehimer is pictured at our Family Game Night on April 18. It was Morgan and Brooke Rinehimer's job to pick points tickets during the Bible Trivia game, hosted by Marc Davis (who is also pictured, but Morgan is cuter).

VBS PLANNING MEETING

The next meeting will be May 7 at 7 pm at Emmanuel. Our theme for this year is "Beach Party – Surfin' through the Scriptures". The program teaches "Beach Be-Attitudes" – Be Obedient; Be Kind; Be Forgiving; Be Bold (the good way); and Believe. Bible stories each day will provide a basis for each Be-attitude. There are positions available for leaders and helpers in the areas of lessons, drama team, kitchen help, crafts, and games. Please come out and share your ideas and enthusiasm for a great VBS program.

UPCOMING DATES

May 25 Last Day of Sunday School
May 31 Sunday School Yard Sale
May ?? – TBA – Movie date to see Prince Caspian
June 1 Graduate Sunday
June ?? – TBA – Tour of St. Mark's, Jim Thorpe

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER INFO

The deadline for information for the June Messenger is May 19. Please get all information to me before this date. Thanks, Denise

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

May 4 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Greeters: Gene and Janice Broyan

May 11 – Pentecost Sunday

Greeters: Forrest and Dylan Atkinson

May 18 – Trinity Sunday

Greeters: Carol Duffy and Eileen Bonczek

May 25 – Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Greeters: Jayne and Rich Rotski

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave & Rosemary Myers

Clifford & Gladys Readler

Marc & Connie Davis

John, Linda, & J.P. Jankowski

MAY BIRTHDAYS

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Ernest Heller | 11 John Jankowski | 21 Caroline Cronic |
| 2 Carol Taney | 11 Steve Moyer | 21 Joel Kline, Jr. |
| 2 Dean Kline II | 12 Harriet Seward | 22 Rachel Paterson |
| 3 Krystle-Lynn McNeal | 14 Richard Supkowski, Sr. | 22 Brooke Rinehimer |
| 5 Travis Grosz | 14 Richard Lewis | 24 Gene Broyan |
| 6 Sanjay Kamat | 18 Kelly Madigan | 28 Courtney Day |
| 8 James Aumick | 20 Susan Heller | 29 Denise Dean |
| 10 Harry Peters, III | 20 Kara Peters | 30 Derek Cease |
| | 21 Donald Oldershaw | |

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| May 2, 1942 | Albert and Millie Myers |
| May 7, 1988 | Ronald and Dawn Kania |
| May 8, 1993 | Lonnie and Paula Rinehimer |
| May 14, 1978 | Gary and Linda Gittens |
| May 21, 1971 | Gene and Janice Broyan |
| May 22, 2001 | Donnie and Doreen Oldershaw |
| May 27, 1989 | Gary and Sharon Eigenbrod |
| May 29, 1976 | Hilbert and Lois Eigenbrod |
| May 30, 1998 | Rosanne and Sanjay Kamat |