

# The Messenger

## April 2009

### SATURDAY, APRIL 4

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER PARTY**

The Sunday School Easter Party will be on April 4 from 10 am to 12 noon. Please see inside this issue for more details.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 5

#### **PALM SUNDAY**

#### **COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR**

We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** on Sunday, April 5, during our regular Sunday Worship Service which begins at 10:30 am. After worship, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for Coffee Hour.

#### **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

The Confirmation Class will meet at the Church at 6:30 pm on April 5.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 9

#### **LENTEN SUPPER AND MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**

On Thursday evening, April 9, we will gather for a special supper followed by our Maundy Thursday service. Pastor Penny will be in charge of preparing our light supper which will begin at 6pm. After our meal, we will join for worship at 7 pm.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 10

#### **GOOD FRIDAY VIGIL**

You are welcome to come to Emmanuel on Good Friday between 12 noon and 3 pm, the traditional hours of our Christ's suffering. Come, and know his love.

#### **GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

St. James Lutheran Church will hold their Good Friday Service at 7:30 pm and welcome all to join them in this special service of remembrance.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 11

#### **BOWLING OUTING**

The Youth Group is inviting everyone to go bowling with them on April 11. The details will be in upcoming bulletins.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 12

#### **EASTER SUNDAY**

We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord at two services on Easter. Our Sunrise Service will begin at 6:30 am and our celebration will continue at the 10:30 am Worship service.

### MONDAY, APRIL 13

#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MEETING**

Anyone who wants to volunteer for Vacation Bible School is encouraged to meet with us on April 13 at 6:30 pm at Faith UMC, which is host this year.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 18

#### **HAM & CHICKEN DINNER**

**ATTENTION:** Our spring fundraiser, **the Ham and Chicken Dinner**, will be held on Saturday, **APRIL 18**. Please see inside this issue as to the dates and times where you can help make our dinner a great success.

## Emmanuel United Church of Christ

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## From The Pastor's Desk

These past few weeks we have been on a journey - a journey toward Easter. Easter! What a wonderful, exhilarating, feel good day. A day when we learn what life is all about - rather, what life in Christ is all about. But before we get there we have to travel through Holy Week - beginning with celebration and ending with great sorrow. Some of us have looked at our lives and made some changes. If we haven't made the changes we have at least looked at those things in us that need to be changed and learned some new tools that can help us to draw closer to God.

Thanks to all of those who have attended our Wednesday night suppers and services. It is my hope that many of you were blessed by our fellowship. I know that I was. I have gotten to know some of you so much better. And the food has been really good. There's still time if you haven't made it yet. We would love to set an extra table.

April 1<sup>st</sup> is my first anniversary in Mountain Top. It has been a great year for Archie and me. We appreciate all the support and love that we have felt since coming to Emmanuel. You are fine people - hard working and faithful. Thanks.

This poem reflects my feelings at this moment. It is by Ann Weems.

THE DISCIPLES  
Hurting, they came to him.  
Healed, they followed him.  
Grateful, they gave to him  
what they had and what they were.  
Blessed, they became a blessing  
and went out to all the world  
in his name.

Those who are hurt  
and healed,  
grateful  
and blessed  
still move among us  
in his name.

Blessings,  
Pastor Penny

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## Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for your cards, prayers and expression of concern while I have been recuperating from my fall. It is wonderful to know that so many people care.  
Judy Cybulski

Thank you to everyone who sent me cards and wished me good health while I am recovering from my bout with this extreme sinus infection. I really appreciate your caring about me. Denise Dean

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, said prayers, sent the delicious food (especially the soups, they were wonderful) and for all the donations given in memory of Dick to our church and to hospice. I also want to thank Pastor Penny for being there for me all the times I called her from the hospital and home; whenever I needed her. And I want to send a very big thank you to everyone who took me to see Dick while he was in the hospital. I

would not have been able to visit him every day without your support and love. I love you all. Hilda Lewis

## Our Condolences

Our most sincere sympathy is sent to Hilda Lewis on the passing of her husband, Dick, on March 1, 2009. Dick was a solid member of our church and will be greatly missed. Our prayers and concerns are with Hilda in her time of sorrow.

We would like to offer our kindest sympathy to Dean and Brenda Kline on the passing of their son, Bradley, on March 7, 2009. Brad was a very popular young man and will be greatly missed in all the activities and community events in which he participated. May our thoughts and prayers ease your sorrow.

## Lenten Supper and Maundy Thursday Service

On Thursday evening, April 9, we will gather for a special supper followed by our Maundy Thursday service. The light supper will begin at 6pm and will be prepared by Pastor Penny. Pastor Penny will also prepare a seder plate to show us and explain the significance of the different foods traditionally eaten for the Passover. After our meal, we will join for worship at 7 pm. Go to dark Gethsemane, through the cold tomb and into the brilliant morning of new life that is promised to us on Easter. Please come and feel again the outpouring of God's love through the sacrifice of his Son.

## Easter Sunday

We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord beginning at 6:30 am for our Sunrise Service. After this service, we will be served a full breakfast prepared by the men of the Church. (Yum, yum!!) Our Easter celebration will continue at the 10:30 am Worship service. Come, raise your soul in wonder and amazement at the fulfillment of God's promise of grace.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONSISTORY

The Consistory will meet on Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 pm.

The **Pastoral Relations Committee** will meet on Monday, April 13, at 6:30 pm. If you have any comments or suggestions for this committee, please see: Barb DeLuca, Gary Eigenbrod, Bob Heller, Cindy Heller, Jim Rinehimer, or Rosemary Myers.

## HAM & CHICKEN DINNER SCHEDULE

- April 16 Ham & Chicken Dinner Prep at 6:30 pm  
Set up tables  
Cut cabbage & clean carrots & peppers
- April 17 Food Prep:  
Peel potatoes at 7:00 **am**  
Make pickled cabbage at 8:00 **am**  
Clean Chicken at 6 pm
- April 18 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 and energy for the good of our church.

## silent auction

**Have some extra stuff you need to get rid of?** Why not donate it to our Silent Auction which will be held during the Ham and Chicken Dinner? We will have everything set up in the Narthex for you to view and bid on beginning at 3 pm and lasting until 7 pm. The auction will then be called at 7:30 pm and "winner takes all". We will need to have all items by Sunday, April 12, with an estimate of their value so that we have time to set up. Or, if you wish to donate a perishable basket or floral arrangement, please let us know in advance so that it can be included and drop it off Saturday morning. If you have questions or wish to donate, please see Pastor Penny.

## CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

As part of our “extended congregation”, it is with great joy that we received news that Rev. Ghulam Nasrani became a grandfather on January 7, 2009. A son, Kalil Nikka Mir Nasrani, was born to Paul Nikka Nasrani and Simi Nilofar Mir. Kalil was 5 lb 11.5 oz and 19.5 inches long when he arrived in this world. Congratulations, Pastor to you and your family.

## TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, April 8, at 12 pm for a covered dish dinner. We welcome you to join our group of “60-somethings” for good food and fellowship. If you wish to come, all you need is a good appetite for food and friendship. So bring a dish to share and join us. If you want to know more about our group, please call Lois Eigenbrod at 868-6419 or Mary Eroh at 868-5268.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

At our initial meeting on March 23, we decided to revisit the Jerusalem Marketplace from June 14 to 18 at Faith UMC. We’ve done this program before about four years ago and it was really enjoyed by everyone. This is the one that is “intergenerational” which means that whole families are invited to be part of the program, whether by volunteering for specific areas or being part of the “tribes”. Wherever you want to be involved, come on out and bring some friends for a trip back in time to where Jesus walked the earth.

Come join us as we continue planning for this year’s VBS when we meet on April 13 at 6:30 pm at Faith UMC.

## YOUTH GROUP

### 30-HOUR FAMINE

The Famine was held on March 27 and 28 and was a great time for everyone involved. We had fourteen youth and three adults attend. I’ll have more statistics in the May Messenger since not all the donations are in just yet. I’d like to thank everyone who supported us. The youth really need role models like you.

### BOWLING OUTING – APRIL 11

The Youth are inviting everyone to go bowling with us on April 11. We will have more information in the bulletin and hope that you will join us for some fun.

### SPRING CLEAN-UP – MAY 2

For those wonderful volunteers who contribute their time and elbow grease to clean up our church in the spring, the Youth Group will be serving you a good, hearty breakfast. (I’m sure they will also be available to

help out with the cleaning, too.) So, come out, put in your order for breakfast ☺ and let’s all serve our church together.

### MOVIE/GAME NIGHT – MAY

We’ve also been planning to have another movie/game night and are planning that for sometime in May. We’ll keep you posted and hope that you will come join us for an evening of family fun.

Marc Davis

## YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS

**Derek Stein** has signed a letter of intent to play soccer at Robert Morris University. Derek has been a great soccer player in our area and we wish him all the great success of a college career. Check out the picture of him with his proud parents, Duane and Denise, on the bulletin board at the front entrance.

**Autumn Atkinson’s** team, the Mountain Top Avalanche, won the indoor eighth grade and under dome championship. The girls won against the Crusaders (3-1), then in the semi-finals against Stroudsburg (3-2 in OT), and the finals against the Popstickles (4-1). Way to go, GIRL!!!! You can see the whole team in the picture on the front door bulletin board.

Congratulations to **Kyle Prelewicz** and the Crestwood JV Hockey Team for winning the 2009 Championship. They started in the playoffs by defeating Back Mountain (6-2); and then creamed Wyoming Area in the semi-finals (12-5). They then won against Scranton Area in a game in which neither team scored in the first half. But Crestwood came on strong in the second half to score three goals in 23 seconds! Whoa!! Great skating, guy! A picture is on the front door board.

### CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL:

Principal’s Honors: Alecia Myers

High Honors: Kelly Madigan, Jacob Mylet, Jordan Pickering, Barry Myers and Chelsea Myers

Honors: Courtney Kania, Sami Dauber, Marc Davis

### CRESTWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL:

High Honors: Rachelle Heller, Justin Rinehimer

Honors: Glynis Dean, Devin Stein, Eric Rinehimer

## Sunday School News

**Sunday School Easter Party, April 4 from 10 am to 12 pm** – Each child should bring six candy eggs for the egg hunt and a basket or paper bag to collect their eggs. We will also be making a craft and, of course, painting toast. A light “breakfast” (cereal, fruit, etc.) will be served.

**Easter Candy Offering** – The Sunday School is gathering an offering to purchase Easter Candy for the people who visit the McKinney Clinic. The offering will be gathered until April 5 and then Lisa will use whatever is collected to purchase the candy. This way, all the candy is the same type and size and makes it easier for Bernie Baluta to pass it out.

## **Bake Sale at the Ham & Chicken Dinner**

Again this year, the Sunday School will set up a bake sale in the Narthex during the Ham and Chicken Dinner. We use the money raised to purchase our curriculum during the year and for Rally Day, Yard Sale and Fall Fest supplies. Anyone who is willing, is asked to donate a goody to help offset our expenses.

Thank you for all your support, Lisa Rinehimer

## **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

### **NEXT CLASS**

The next Confirmation Class will be on April 5 at 6:30 pm at the church.

## **2009 ENVELOPE BOXES**

Any boxes which were not picked up have been moved to the table outside the Secretary's office.

## **How to Keep Warm in Church**

1. Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up, and you'll avoid the draft in the back of the church.
2. Invite your neighbors and friends, and sit 12 people to a pew.
3. Set yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area.
4. Wear thermal underwear (in the appropriate liturgical colors, of course).
5. Wait for an unfamiliar hymn – and then watch the sparks fly!

(from Grace UCC, Allentown News)

## **PNEC EVENT**

### **COME TO THE WELL 2009**

**APRIL 25, 2009**

The theme for this year's Come to the Well is *Transforming Discipleship: Make Disciples a Few at a Time*. The date is Saturday, April 25, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm and will be held at First UCC, Hellerstown. The cost is \$5.00 per person. The seminar will remind us of the model of disciple-making that was exemplified by Jesus as we explore reasons why Jesus selected and poured his life into the twelve and apply Jesus' model to our modern-day disciple-making. Copies of the registration form are on the table in the Narthex.

## **NEWSLETTER INFO DEADLINE**

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

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**APRIL 2009**

### April 5 – Palm Sunday

Greeters: Caroline Cronce and Connie Myers

Acolytes: Autumn Atkinson and Justin Rinehimer

Liturgist: Various

### April 12 – Easter

Sonrise Service: volunteers

Regular Service:

Greeters: Connie Davis and Doris Yurchak

Acolyte: Kyle Prelewicz and Eric Rinehimer

Liturgist: Mary Martin

### April 19 – Second Sunday after Easter

Greeters: Jayne and Rich Rotski

Acolyte: Glynis Dean

Liturgist: Devin Stein

### April 26 – Third Sunday after Easter

Greeters: Carol Duffy and Eileen Bonczek

Acolyte: Maegan Grosz

Liturgist: Beverly Kramer

### **OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS**

Dave & Rosemary Myers

Clifford & Gladys Readler

Marc & Connie Davis

John, Linda, & J.P. Jankowski

### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

1 Allen Dennis	6 Jim Stewart	19 Keirsten Whitmire
1 Jayne Rotski	6 Priscilla Farrell	20 Elizabeth Dickson
3 Clifford Readler	7 Peter Sakowski	22 Hilbert Eigenbrod
3 Cadence Ring	8 Chelsea Myers	23 Lisa Kemmerer
4 Amber DeLuca	8 Doris Yurchak	24 Kathy Rinehimer
4 Derek Stein	12 Sara Silveti	26 Dorothy Fine
4 Holly Henry	13 Jeffrey Brand	27 Stacy Prelewicz
4 Wayne Mast	15 Amanda Wallick	27 Kirk Dollar
5 William Hoch	15 Barbara DeLuca	28 Dean Kline
5 Shane Oldershaw	16 Rosanne Kamat	28 Clyde Heller
5 Betty Baker	16 Priscilla Farrell	28 Lorie DiMaria
	18 Carissa Hoch	

### **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

April 14, 1979.....	Randy and Pat Grosz
April 20, 2002.....	Kevin and Debbie Price
April 21, 1990.....	David and Donna Myers
April 26, 1952.....	Donald and Mary Eroh
April 27, 1968.....	Jack and Bonnie Shafer
April 30, 1988.....	Duane and Denise Stein

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2009**

### **April 5 – Palm Sunday**

Greeters:	Caroline Cronce and Connie Myers
Acolytes:	Autumn Atkinson and Justin Rinehimer
Liturgist:	Various

### **April 12 – Easter**

Sonrise Service: Volunteers

Regular Service:

Greeters:	Connie Davis and Doris Yurchak
Acolyte:	Kyle Prelewicz and Eric Rinehimer
Liturgist:	Mary Mary

### **April 19 – Second Sunday after Easter**

Greeters:	Jayne and Rich Rotski
Acolyte:	Glynis Dean
Liturgist:	Devin Stein

### **April 26 – Third Sunday after Easter**

Greeters:	Carol Duffy and Eileen Bonczek
Acolyte:	Maegan Grosz
Liturgist:	Beverly Kramer

### **OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS**

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