

The Messenger

February 2009

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR

We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** on Sunday, February 1, during our regular Sunday Worship Service which begins at 10:30 am. After worship, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for Coffee Hour. Please bring a goodie to share.

SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY

Our Youth Group will collect monetary donations on Souper Bowl Sunday, February 1. These donations will be used to restock the Wapwallopen Ministerium Food Bank which is housed at Emmanuel.

PIZZA/HOAGIE PICK UP

If you ordered pizza or hoagies from our Cub Scouts, they will be available for you to pick up after our worship service on February 1. (Great Super Bowl dinners and snacks, right?)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

SCOUT SUNDAY

The Cub Scouts of Pack 433 which meet at Emmanuel will join us in worship on Sunday, February 8. Come see these youth and their leaders as they participate in various areas of our service.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Confirmation Class will meet on Sunday evening, February 8, at Emmanuel at 6:30 pm.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

TWILIGHTERS MEETING

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, February 11, for a covered dish lunch at 12 noon, weather permitting. If you have any questions or need to check if the meeting is on, please call Ethel Fine at 868-3705.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

ASH WEDNESDAY

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 25, with our Ash Wednesday Service. Everyone is invited to gather at 6:00 pm for a light supper in the Fellowship Hall after which our Ash Wednesday service will be held. For those who are unable to meet for supper, the worship service begins at 7:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

During Lent, we will meet for supper and service on Wednesday evenings. At 6:00 pm, a light supper will be served in the Fellowship Hall and after which we will gather for Lenten worship at 7:00 pm. These services will not include Communion.

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From The Pastor's Desk

From the Pastor's desk

Brrrrrrrrrr! It's cold When I came to Mountain Top I knew that it was going to be colder than where I was – but of course, it's been colder there this year too. I enjoy the snow – I think more than Archie does. Of course he is the one who clears the driveway and the walk.

I have been very encouraged by the attendance and support for programs at church since the beginning of the year. I want to thank everyone for you efforts. Everyone enjoys seeing all the kids up front during the time for our younger generation. We just need to keep it going. I am especially excited about the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25th. The Worship Committee and I have decided to have Wednesday night supper and service all during Lent. We do need to have volunteers to prepare and serve the dinners. I am going to do Maundy Thursday and the confirmation class will be responsible for one of the dinners. It's supposed to be just a simple meal.

During the month of February I continue to offer the challenge to bring someone to church with you. Someone who doesn't know the joy of Christ or someone who knows but hasn't been attending church or been a part of a community that serves God. Let's fill up the pews before Easter. How exciting would that be?!

We are given the command by Christ to go and make disciples. During your devotional time pray about how you are going to do that. God will give you the words or the courage that you need.

Blessings to you all!

Pastor Penny

Thank You

We received a thank you letter from Bernadine Baluta, R.N., and the McKinney Clinic Staff for the personal care packages, toys and clothing donated through our Sunday School Giving Tree. The letter is on the bulletin board in the bell tower.

We received a thank you card from Phoebe-Devitt Homes for our annual donation of \$1,000. Phoebe provides affordable care and our benevolence allows Phoebe ministries to provide charitable care for any resident as long as it is needed. The letter is on the bulletin board in the bell tower.

Our Condolences

We offer our kindest condolences to Lois Eigenbrod on the passing of her sister, Joan Bush, on December 28, 2008. May our prayers comfort her and her family in their sorrow.

CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave Myers has placed a 2009 calendar in the custodian closet. We encourage you to sign up for any week during the year to clean your church. Our church has been cleaned by our volunteers for over 11 years and is something anyone can do to help out. Please see Dave or call him at 868-3655 if you have any questions or would like to help with this very important volunteer project.

TWILIGHTERS

Weather permitting, the Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, February 11, 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 Ethel Fine at 868-3705.

EVENING SERVICES IN LENT

Our Wednesday evening services will take on a new look for Lent. Beginning with the Ash Wednesday service on February 25, we will have supper and service. The suppers will begin at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Each week different volunteers will prepare a light meal for us to enjoy together. After our meal, we will gather for worship at 7:00 pm. During this time, communion will not be part of the services on Wednesday evenings.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONSISTORY

The Consistory will meet on Thursday, February 19, at 6:30 pm.

2009 ENVELOPE BOXES

You may pick up your 2009 Envelope Boxes from the table in the Narthex.

NEWSLETTER INFO DEADLINE

February 16

The deadline for information for the March Messenger is Monday, February 16. Please get all information to me before this date. Thanks, Denise

2008 RECORD OF GIVING

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>NO. OF</u>	<u>DOLLAR</u>
<u>FROM</u> <u>TO</u>	<u>ENVELOPES</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
\$0 0	32	-0-
1 50	59	1,329.00
51 500	59	11,227.00
501 1,000	19	12,848.00
1,001 2,000	14	19,248.00
2,001 2,700	5	12,026.00
5,100	1	<u>5,100.00</u>
Total Regular, Special & Building		<u>64,587.75</u>

The By-Laws of Emmanuel UCC set forth the requirements for active membership under Section VII.E. as follows:

“E. The Spiritual Council shall provide spiritual care and strengthen the participation of each member in:

1. Partaking of the Holy Communion at Emmanuel United Church of Christ.
2. Contributing to the support of Emmanuel United Church of Christ.
3. Worshiping with the Congregation at Emmanuel United Church of Christ.

(To remain a member in good standing, you must do all three of the above, except for shut-ins).”

As noted above, active membership is maintained by participation in all three areas outlined within the congregation of Emmanuel UCC.

Sunday School News

VALENTINES FOR VETS

The February Mission Project for the Sunday School is the Valentines for Vets. Cindy Heller has placed a large box in the bell tower in which everyone can drop a valentine or two. We will collect them through Sunday, February 8. Cindy then delivers them to the Veterans Administration Hospital so they can be passed out to the men and women there in time for St. Valentines Day. Please bring a couple extra Valentines and bring a smile to their faces and warmth to their hearts.

ROLLER SKATING PARTY

The Cub Scouts have invited our children and youth to a roller skating party on February 18 at the Skate Away in Wilkes-Barre. This is similar to the Elementary School parties which emphasize a family outing. Parents are encouraged to come and stay with their children. We

hope you will come out and enjoy an evening of roller skating with your family.

Thank you for all your support, Lisa Rinehimer

YOUTH IN THE NEWS

Look on the bulletin board near the front door for a picture of some of Santa's youngest helpers at the Sunday School Christmas Party. Leah Dietrich is shown with her Dad, Chris, wrapping presents for the McKinney Clinic children. In the background Cindy Heller's granddaughter, Cadence Ring, looks on. All our youth and children do such a wonderful job each year donating new or "gently used" toys, games and stuffed animals. This year, there were *over 100 gifts* to be wrapped; a job done with much enthusiasm by our young elves. About 15 children wrapped presents, gathered personal care packages, and assembled fruit baskets for our homebound members during the Christmas Party.

YOUTH GROUP

We started collecting Soup-er Bowl donations last Sunday, January 25, and will collect again on Super Bowl Sunday, February 1. Thanks to everyone who supports this event. The food bank will be restocked with the money donated.

The 30-Hour Famine will be held Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28. I'll have sponsor packets for anyone who wants to participate and will pass them out on February 15. Please have your parents/guardians fill out a permission slip for the sleepover and the trip to Mr. Z's to buy the food bank items.

Marc Davis

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2009

Feb. 1 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Greeters: Matt Price and Connie Davis
Acolytes: Autumn Atkinson and Rachele Heller

Feb. 8 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Greeters: Cub Scouts from Pack 433
Acolyte: Cub Scouts from Pack 433

Feb. 15 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Greeters: Forrest and Dylan Atkinson
Acolyte: Kyle Prelewicz

Feb. 22 – Last Sunday After Epiphany - Transfiguration

Greeters: Tammy and Sami Dauber
Acolyte: Glynis Dean

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

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

AROUND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

NEWS FROM JIM CYBULSKI!!

I'm training to participate in an endurance event as a member of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Team In Training. All of us on Team In Training are raising funds to help stop leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin lymphoma and myeloma from taking more lives. I am completing this event in honor of all individuals who are battling blood cancers. These people are the real heroes on our team, and we need your support to cross the ultimate finish line - a cure!

The bike ride will be on February 14. It is called the Tour de Palm Springs and will include Silicon Valley and Monterey Bay areas. About 60 riders are participating and we are all hoping to reach our goals. Mine is \$2,500. To check my progress, please go to <http://pages.teamintraining.org/sj/tdps09/jcybulski>

February 1 is the last day for me to turn in donations. If you want to donate before that date, please go to my web page where there is a button which will take you to the secure donations page.

I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me for this important event. It's great to have family and friends like you.

Jim Cybulski

(Note: if the above url does not open a page automatically, please "copy and paste" it into the address bar. Denise)

The following information is from Team in Training's Century Rides page:

Team In Training's cycling program offers the opportunity to take on the challenge of 100 miles and make a difference in the lives of an estimated 894,543 Americans living with blood cancers. Along with a customized training program and expert coaching, participants train with a local group of like-minded individuals for motivation and inspiration.

GET INSPIRED, JIM!!
WE'RE BEHIND YOU 100%!!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Ronald Williams	11 Taylor Farrell	16 J.P. Jankowski
4 Dave Horensky	11 Harold Rinehimer	16 Brian Myers
4 Donna Walck	11 Arline Rinehimer	17 Charles Kania
6 Richie Lenahan	12 Jared Yakscoe	18 Brenda Kline
8 Maria Storti	13 Floyd Fenstermacher	19 Joann Sabonas
9 Phillip Aumick	13 Ethan Supkowski	19 John L. Walck
9 Bianca Oldershaw	14 Roy Baker	23 Linda Jankowski
9 Becky Frey	14 Donald Eroh	25 Lisa Rinehimer
10 Olivia Palubinski	14 Michael Heller	29 Jan Rinehimer

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 14, 1988.....	Bob and Rhonda Madigan
February 14, 1971.....	Bill and Linda Wallick
February 15, 1991.....	Brian and Priscilla Farrell

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