

The Messenger

March 2009

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR

We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** on Sunday, March 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.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

CONFIRMATION CLASS TRIP

On March 6, the Confirmation Class will take a trip to visit Lancaster Theological Seminary and Bethany Children's Home as part of their Confirmation education. A permission slip is required to attend which was given to the students at the February 22 class. For more information, see inside this issue.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

It's time to lose an hour's sleep (yippee?). Remember to set your clocks ahead so that you can get to church on Sunday morning in time for the service ☺.

MONDAY, MARCH 9

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MEETING

Anyone who wants to volunteer for Vacation Bible School is encouraged to meet with us on March 9 at 6:30 pm at Faith UMC, which is host this year.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

TWILIGHTERS MEETING

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, March 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 Lois Eigenbrod at 868-6419 or Mary Eroh at 868-5268.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

OGHS OFFERING SUNDAY

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Sunday, March 22, and for a week or two thereafter. This is one of the "five for five" offerings of the UCC. There is more information about this offering inside this issue.

MARCH 19, 20 AND 21

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY DATES

It's been six years since our last pictorial directory and there have been many new faces joining our Christian family. We are now in the process of compiling a new pictorial directory. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex for you to choose a time for a sitting. Time slots are going fast and if you wish to have a picture taken with your "extended family", you are encouraged to choose soon since these pictures will need a double sitting time.

MARCH 27 AND 28

30 HOUR FAMINE

The kids are coming to get sponsors, so look out. We will meet at the church on Friday, March 27, at 6 pm and pick up will be at 2:30 pm on Saturday. See inside for more info.

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From The Pastor's Desk



Thanks to Ondrej Paska (See Matthew 14:24-33) 01-04-2008
PETER FINDS HIS FAITH TO BE MUCH STRONGER IN THE WINTER

This cartoon seemed very apropos since I heard the weatherman say just this morning, "Meteorologically there are only two more weeks of winter." I hope that the caption above doesn't apply to all of you as well. Please don't find yourself on thin ice by not tending to the spiritual things of life. There may officially be only two more weeks of winter but I doubt that we will see much spring-like weather the first part of March.

As we begin Lent on Ash Wednesday it is my hope that we find our faith to be much stronger as we examine ourselves in preparation for Easter. Instead of giving up chocolate or popcorn or beer for Lent, try adding a little positive discipline into your daily living. Disciplines like setting aside a time for prayer each day, or reading your Bible, or doing a good deed for someone. One thing I would like to see is that each of you would attend our Wednesday evening suppers and services. Fellowship in our church community will bring all of us closer together and make us feel like the family that we are as children of God. It will surely bring glory to God to see the family coming together in love.

I can hardly believe that in just one more month I will have been here for a year. It has been good for me. You are all good folks and I have really enjoyed being here. Let's continue to move forward together.

Blessings,
Pastor Penny

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for your cards and prayers on the passing of my sister, Joan Bush. Your concern and sympathy are appreciated so much. Lois Eigenbrod

Thank you to everyone who sponsored me in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Century Bike Ride. It was an awesome experience as all of us rode around the Palm Springs area for 100 miles. I had pledged to raise \$2,500 and that amount was to be given, whether I received sponsors or not. Your generosity helped me reach and go beyond my goal as I was able to give \$2,560. I am grateful for having friends who support me and my missions.

Jim Cybulski

We received a thank you letter from Brendan Devine, Chief, Voluntary Service, at the Veterans Hospital. Each year, National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans is observed during the week of Valentine's Day. He wrote to thank us for the many Valentines we sent to the hospitalized veterans. The letter is on the bulletin board in the bell tower.

Our Condolences

Many of us knew Pastor Jim Crawford as he filled in as a supply pastor for us on several occasions. Pastor Crawford finished his ministry on earth on February 3,

2009. We will miss his strong leadership and offer our sincere condolences to his family.

CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

The Stork Arrived – Twice

Our church families have been blessed by the arrival of newborns not once, but twice recently.

On January 12, 2009, Taylor Jordan Thomas was born to Paul and Angie (Fine) Thomas. Taylor came into this world at 6 lb 11 oz and was 18 inches long.

On January 29, 2009, Dean Michael Palubinski was born to Michael and Jennifer (Rinehimer) Palubinski. He weighed 7 lb 9 oz and was 19½ inches long. Dean is the newest grandson of Joan and John Rinehimer.

TWILIGHTERS

Weather permitting, the Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, March 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 Lois Eigenbrod at 868-6419 or Mary Eroh at 868-5268.

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.

OGHS MISSION OFFERING

Sunday, March 22, is One Great Hour of Sharing Mission Offering Sunday. This year’s theme is “Where is Your Treasure?” and is based on Jesus’ advice regarding treasure.

“Where your treasure is,

there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21

Simple things are treasures when they are needed but not available. Books, seeds, clean water, gardening tools, blankets, medicines, and housing are all common place items in America but for many people, these are luxuries. Our gifts to OGHS, spread these treasures to people who need them, here at home and around the world. The map on the door in the Fellowship Hallway shows the places and people who are helped by you. From the southern U.S., down through Central and South

America, across to Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe, through the desert to Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and the Pacific Islands, these are but a few of the stories of the people who are living better lives as a result of the generosity of people who give to OGHS. Stop a minute and check it out. Then consider your treasure and how you can share it with others.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

CONSISTORY

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

RECYCLING INFO

We have been instructed by the recycling center regarding our collecting of aluminum cans for recycling. Please understand that the recycling center has informed us that it will only take aluminum cans like the ones beverages come in, not tin (such as vegetable cans) or any other metal, and is requiring that the cans be disposed of in garbage-size bags, not shopping bags. We thank everyone who contributes to this project and hope you will continue to help us raise funds to help needy families in our area.

VETERANS INFO WANTED

We are purchasing a plaque to honor our veterans and need some information to complete the details on individuals. A sheet is on the table in the Narthex and next to the Fellowship Hall doorway which asks for the Name, Branch of Service and Rank of our members who have been in the armed forces. If you have any information to help us complete this plaque, please fill in the blanks.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

NEXT CLASS

The next Confirmation Class will be on March 15 at 6:30 pm.

CONFIRMATION TRIP

The Confirmation Trip is on Friday, March 6. We will **leave Emmanuel at 7:00 am** in order to get to Faith UCC in Hazleton so that we can all get on the bus in time. The class will visit Lancaster Theological Seminary and Bethany Children’s Home. Lunch will be at the Green Dragon Flea Market, which the youth will need to purchase. We will return to Emmanuel at 6:00 pm. *Permission slips and an itinerary were given to the youth at the February 22 class. These are required to be turned in to Denise Dean as soon as possible with the \$20 fee.*

Sunday School News

EASTER CANDY OFFERING

The March Mission Project for the Sunday School is to gather an offering for purchasing Easter Candy for the clients of the McKinney Clinic. We ask for a monetary donation so that we can purchase all the same kind of candy. If you wish to donate, please see Lisa Rinehimer.

Thank you for all your support, Lisa Rinehimer

YOUTH GROUP

THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who donated to Soup-er-Bowl Sunday. We raised \$223.91 which will be used for our shopping trip during the 30-Hour Famine.

30-HOUR FAMINE

Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28, will be the Famine. So far, Autumn Atkinson, Glynis Dean, Marc Davis and Devin Stein are participating. They'll be looking for sponsors, so get ready for them to hit you up for a donation. Anyone else who wants to join us, see me for a donation envelope. There's plenty left and plenty of time to get donations. No food after breakfast on Friday. No lunch which will help to raise awareness and maybe your friends will pray that you don't starve. Report to the church at 6 pm on Friday. **PERMISSION SLIPS** are a must. We'll eat at 1 pm Saturday and pickup is at 2:30 pm. Any questions or concerns, call me at 868-8028.

Since 2002, **our church has raised \$7,022.17**, which is enough to feed 19½ children. Give yourselves a big hand. Thanks for your big hearts and open wallets. World Vision called to thank our church personally and gave me these stats. They said they know times are hard and thanked us for our continued support.

Marc Davis

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Come join us as we plan for this year's VBS. We will be reviewing the materials and picking which program we will have when we meet on March 9 at 6:30 pm at Faith UMC. Come help us plan an awesome program.

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 this 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.

NEWSLETTER INFO DEADLINE

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

2009 ENVELOPE BOXES

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have received letters from two organizations asking for volunteers to help staff their facilities.

Bethany Children's Home is looking for House Parents, married couples who live at Bethany in their own quarters but with the young men and women. House Parents are role models providing care, compassion and structure for the children, many of whom have never experienced this kind of family environment. It is a challenging but rewarding position. A letter and flyer with more information and who to call are on the bulletin board in the bell tower.

Diakon Hospice St. John is in need of volunteers to help visit patients or to assist in their office. A letter and flyer with information on who to call is on the bulletin board in the bell tower and some brochures are on the table in the Narthex.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE - MARCH 2009

March 1 – First Sunday in Lent

Greeters: Barb DeLuca and Bob Heller
Acolytes: Eric Rinehimer and Kyle Prelewicz
Liturgist: Beverly Kramer

March 8 – Second Sunday in Lent

Greeters: Don Myers and Matt Price
Acolyte: Glynis Dean
Liturgist: Jim Rinehimer

March 15 – Third Sunday in Lent

Greeters: Beverly Kramer and Meredith Martin
Acolyte: Maegan Grosz
Liturgist: Dave Myers

March 22 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Greeters: Rich Lenahan and Alecia Myers
Acolyte: Devin Stein
Liturgist: Sharon Moyer

March 29 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Greeters: Dave and Rosemary Myers
Acolyte: Rachele Heller
Liturgist: Mary Martin

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2	Jane Rinehimer	12	Debbie Fine	27	Connie Miller
2	Ashley Sabonas	14	Devin Stein	28	Brian Heller
2	Ron Day	14	Jessica Gittens	28	Samantha Kotarsky
3	Carey Hoffman	16	David DeLuca	29	Amanda Bickham
7	Jason Mellas	21	Lisa Caffrey	29	Joe Huntzinger
7	Cindy Heller	23	Hailee Smith	29	Lois Huntzinger
7	Dorothy Hoyt	24	Deven Kamat	31	Gwen Sakowski
9	Reece Mylet	26	Brad Frey	31	Michael Supkowski
9	Gloria Schreyer			31	Bethany Newell

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 20, 1982..... Bob and Helen Heller

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