

# The Messenger

## April 2010

### THURSDAY, APRIL 1

#### LENTEN SUPPER AND SERVICE

On **Maundy Thursday**, April 1, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm for a light supper prepared by Pastor Penny. After our meal, at 7:00 pm, we will proceed to the Sanctuary for our service commemorating the Lord's Supper and reflecting on Christ's suffering and sacrifice. If you are unable to join us for supper, please still come for worship. Everyone is welcome.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 2

#### GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE

On Good Friday, April 2, we will join with churches of the Mountain Top Ministerium for an ecumenical service. The service will begin at 12:00 pm and will focus on Jesus' last words from the cross. We welcome everyone to this community worship service as we hear Christ's words of sorrow and hope.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 3

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER PARTY

The Sunday School Easter Party will be held on April 3 from 10 am to noon. Each child should bring a basket or bag for collecting eggs for the egg hunt. The Sunday School will provide the candies this year so they do not have to bring any eggs. We will have a brunch with cereals, fruits and juices, and, of course, painted toast. Come out and bring a friend for a fun time.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 4

#### EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES and FELLOWSHIP

On Easter Sunday, April 4, we will celebrate Jesus' victory over sin and death with two joyful services. The Sunrise Service will begin at 6:30 am and our regular worship service will begin at 10:30 am. At both services we will join in the sacrament of Holy Communion. After the Sunrise Service, we will have an Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall and after the 10:30 service we will have our coffee hour, as usual. Our Sunday School will meet at 9:00 am for a special celebration service. So come hungry for food – spiritual and physical – and be filled with the spirit of the Risen Christ.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 6

#### PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Pastoral Relations Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 6, at 5:30 pm.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 17

#### TURKEY SUPPER

On April 17, we will hold our Spring supper which will be a **Turkey Supper**. There are posters on the table in the Narthex and a sign-up sheet for when you can help. Please get the word out about this supper. It is one of our major fundraisers. For more information on how you can help, please see inside this issue.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 22

#### CONSISTORY MEETING

The Consistory will meet on the fourth Thursday, April 22, instead of the third, to avoid overlapping with set-up for the Turkey Dinner

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## From The Pastor's Desk

This article was sent by our Conference Minister, Alan Miller. I thought it asked a couple of good and thought provoking questions and want to share it with you here.

A Rabbi was traveling at night to a meeting. Driving on country roads in an area unfamiliar to him, he made a wrong turn onto the access road to a military base. As he approached the guard house an armed sentry called out: "Who are you? What are you doing here?" The Rabbi yelled back: "Excuse me?" Again the guard yelled: "Who are you? What are you doing here?" This time the Rabbi asked; "Soldier, how much are you paid for stopping people and asking them these questions?" The soldier thought for a minute, did the calculations in his head, and told the Rabbi the amount of his weekly pay. To which the Rabbi said; "I will pay you even more if you will ask me those questions at the beginning of each new day!"

*Who are you? What are you doing here?* Most of us spend more of our day talking than listening. As a matter of fact, most of us are so good at talking that we give "the answers" to others before they even ask the questions. We give answers to others even if they don't have questions. It's like we are all playing *Jeopardy*, we know all the answers, now we just have to figure out the questions.

How would your day... maybe even your life... change if you began each day asking God the Rabbi's questions: *Who am I? and Why am I here?* and then sitting in silence listening to God?

And now from me – during this Easter time, a time of new life, a little reflection on these two questions would be in order. Why do you do what you do? Is it because it's what the world says is the right thing or is it because you have asked God and then listened for answers? I am available for Spiritual Direction – a time of reflection and prayer and asking questions – for anyone who would like to call me.

Read these words from a familiar hymn

*"Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord to thee.*

*Take my moments and my days – let them flow in ceaseless praise."*

They hymn goes on to say, take my hands, take my voice, take my silver and gold, and take my will. We must dedicate time each day to sit and have conversation with God. God will take these things and use them but first we must be willing to ask *Who am I? and Why am I here?* And after you have the answers – act on them!

Have a Blessed Easter!

***Pastor Penny***

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### *Our Condolences*

Our most sincere sympathy is offered to Rosemary Myers and Bernadette Schabener on the passing of their parents, Rose Marie and Michael Kutchmonich. Rose Marie concluded her journey in life on February 25 and Michael on March 12. We pray for God to ease their families' sorrow and bring them peace.

Nell Grace Martin, grandmother of Billy Martin and great-grandmother of Meredith, passed away on March 14, 2010. We offer our prayers and condolences to Billy, Mary and Meredith and ask for God's peace to ease their sorrow.

## Thank You

Sherri Hoch and Stan Stein and their families would like to thank everyone for their cards, gifts and prayers. Sherri is having some difficulty after her kidney transplant and we continue to pray for her recovery. A card from Sherri is on the bell tower bulletin board

Rosemary Myers and Bernadette Schabener would like to express their sincere thanks for the cards, calls and prayers for their families after the passing of their parents, Rose Marie and Michael Kutchmonich. Your warmth and sympathy are greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank everyone for the cake for my "moving away party". I also thank everyone for all the care and years of support for me and my family. You will always be in my heart and this will always be my home. Connie Miller

A special THANK YOU to:

Cliff Readler for fixing the altar chair.

Nelson and Mary Horwath for replacing the broken microwave.

Brian Steinbrenner for donating trash removal on several occasions.

Thanks to Allen Dennis and Pete Dickson for volunteering to take over coordination of the suppers. Don Eroh has been coordinating them for many years and expressed his desire to step down from this area of great responsibility. We thank him for his dedication and all the time he spent in organizing the dinners over all these years.

Girl Scout Troop 3323 and all the Girl Scouts from Service Unit 314 thanked us for the use of our Fellowship Hall for their cookie distribution. Their card is on the bell tower bulletin board.

We continue to support our Benevolence missions and received thank you's from:

Lancaster Theological Seminary for our Christmas Offering of \$250;

Bethany Children's Home for our Christmas Offering of \$150;

Phoebe Devitt Homes for our Christmas Offering of \$150 and our Benevolence fulfillment of \$300.

The letters are on the bulletin board in the bell tower.

Bernadine Baluta, Clinic Coordinator of the McKinney Clinic extended her thanks on behalf of all the people who are clients of the clinic for our gifts of "care packages" for the adults and children's Christmas presents. She writes, "The gifts were received with gratitude from all our patients." The letter is on the bulletin board in the bell tower.

## EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES

There are two envelopes in your offering box for Easter; a regular envelope and one marked "Easter Offering". As we have done for many years, the "Easter Offering" will be used to support the efforts of Bethany Children's Home (\$150), Phoebe Devitt Ministries (\$150), and Lancaster Theological Seminary (\$250). Any offering remaining after the disbursement to these ministries will be used to offset our OCWM offering (\$1,500). The "Easter Offering" is a benevolence offering and not used to build up the General Fund. Your regular offering is needed to support the General Fund and the mission of your church.

## CONGREGATIONAL CORNER TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, April 14, at 12 noon for a covered dish lunch. Bring your favorite dish and spend some time with us. Call Lois Eigenbrod or Mary Eroh for more information about our group.

## 300 CLUB FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, June 19, there will be an exciting extravaganza at Emmanuel. Beginning at noon and until 6 pm, we will hold a 300 Club Fundraiser. By purchasing a ticket for \$35, you and a friend are given a pass to free food and entertainment for the day. The ticket also enters you in drawings for monetary prizes which will be held every hour with the grand prize of \$1,000 drawn at 6 pm. Other prizes include one at \$500, one at \$250, ten at \$100, ten at \$50 and ten at \$25. You do not have to be present to win. The entertainment will be provided by the Mud Pond Boys from 12:30 to 2:30 pm and JT & Carol from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. There will be games and prizes for the kids, also. If you don't want to be entered in the drawings, you can still come out and enjoy the food and entertainment by paying \$10 at the door. Please see Allen Dennis if you want tickets or can help out.

## Turkey Supper Dates

April 15 to 17, 2010

**Our Spring Supper this year will be our Turkey Supper. Please promote this dinner as much as possible since it is one of our biggest fundraisers. Posters are on the tables in the Narthex and next to the Fellowship Hall doorway. Please take a couple and pin them up around our community.**

Please remember that it is **not necessary** to be at the supper “forever”. If everyone takes a turn, we can all help each other and feel good about volunteering to support our church. Sign-up sheets are on the tables in the Narthex and next to the Fellowship Hall Door.

As always, we need people to cook the turkeys. Don Eroh is the person to see if you can volunteer your time for this important item (what’s a Turkey Supper without turkey, right?) ***Please save the juice for gravy.*** The turkeys arrive either at your home or at the church (depending on how you arrange it with Don) on Thursday morning.

On **Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m.**, walls are taken down and tables are set up. Then there is the cleaning and cutting up of the vegetables for the pickled cabbage and “eyeing” and cutting up of the potatoes for the stuffing.

Early **Friday morning at 7:00 a.m.** more potatoes are eyed (we need mashed potatoes, too) and then at about **8:00 a.m.** we start making the pickled cabbage and stuffing.

**Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.** we start cleaning the meat off the turkeys, which is easier to do if the turkeys are warm. Those of you who clean your own turkeys and then deliver them really help to speed up this process. Then, of course, the **actual event begins at 3:00 and goes to about 7:00 p.m.** We can always use lots of hands for serving food, working in the kitchen, busing tables, and waiting on tables. By the end of the supper, the workers, many of whom have been there since 2:30 p.m. (mashing potatoes, making gravy, making sure the vegetables and stuffing are hot so that everything is ready at 3:00 p.m.) are ready for a rest. That’s when it’s nice to have a **clean-up crew come in at 7:00 p.m.** The tables all have to be cleaned off, tablecloths and chairs wiped down, Sunday School rooms put back into order and the walls put back up. The large roasters and cook pots are washed and put away until the next supper. The kitchen cleaned and floors washed and vacuumed.

As you can see, there is a lot of work involved in having a supper, but it is a lot of fun and fellowship, too. Please consider where you can be of service and join us.

## **SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY**

Saturday, May 1, has been set as the annual church clean-up day. It takes quite a few people to tidy-up our building and all hands are very much appreciated.

## **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

## **Sunday School News**

### **Easter Party**

Our Sunday School Easter Party will be on Saturday, April 3, from 10 am to 12 noon. The Sunday School will provide the candy for the egg hunt this year. Each child should bring 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.

### **Bake Sale**

We will be selling baked goods during the Turkey Supper on April 17. This fundraiser helps collect money for purchasing curriculum and supplies for our Sunday School program. If anyone would like to donate baked goods, we would be very grateful.

Lisa Rinehimer

## **YOUTH GROUP**

### **30-HOUR FAMINE**

We held the 30-Hour Famine on March 26 to 27. The youth were great and we did some amazing stuff, like going to see “His Last Days” at Christ UCC in Conyngham. We also did our usual grocery shopping at Weis with the money donated for Soup-er Bowl Sunday. I’ll have more details for the next newsletter.

The next **Youth Group meeting** will be at 6:30 pm on Sunday, April 11, at Pastor Penny’s.

As we have done for several years, the members of the **Youth Group are encouraged to help with the Turkey Supper.** Many of them will be working in the hall, waiting on tables and generally keeping the diners full of food and beverages. Others will be helping keep the take-out orders flowing smoothly or working at the Sunday School bake sale. Wherever they work, it’s all for a good reason – to support the work of our church.

Marc Davis

## YOUTH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

If you know of any of our youth who deserve recognition for their scholastic, talent or sports abilities, please let me know. Better yet, if there is a news article, cut it out and give it to me. Thanks, Denise

CONGRATULATIONS to the Holy Redeemer Girls Swim Team and **Meredith Martin**. The girls are the 2010 Wyoming Valley Conference and District Champions. That's keeping your head above water!!

Cub Scout Pack 433 held their pinewood derby on March 14. **Hunter Rinehimer** qualified as one of the three fastest times in his Webelos II den which allows him to advance to the Council Level. *I feel the need for speed!!!* Go, Hunter!!

## MUG SHOTS

A lot of our people were involved in a lot of activities recently. Check out these pictures on the front board:

The Lenten Suppers were caught on film with a good group of members feeding their faces. See how many people you can identify in the pic.

The Mountain Top community was entertained with an evening of culture and entertainment as the Crestwood High Students presented *Footloose*. On Saturday, March 20, people came to the school to enjoy a spaghetti dinner with dinner music and a fine arts display presented by the students. The spaghetti dinner benefitted the CSG Cadre for a Cure team of the Relay for Life. At 7 pm the show began which included two of our young people, **Travis Grosz** and **Samantha Dauber**. The article from the Mountain Peaks is on the front bulletin board with Trav and Sammi's pictures.

**Hunter Rinehimer** is pictured helping recycle Christmas Trees, a community service of Pack 433, which keeps the trees out of the landfills and puts them to good use.

**Aaron Parker** is on the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade boys championship team of the Mountain Top Youth Basketball League. *SWISH – nothing but NET!!*

**Morgan Rinehimer** was elected to be in charge of the Scrapbook for the Tall in the Saddle 4-H Club. She was also seen at the Rice Elementary Book Fair, picking out some interesting books.

The Middle School Student Council is pictured with their Valentines for Vets. Kimmy Bernetski is shown holding up her contribution.

A recent presentation of the D.A.R.E. program was held for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Rice Elementary. Patrolman Scott Rositzki is pictured with a group of students, including **Nate Kamowski**.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The **Pastoral Relations Committee** will meet on Tuesday, April 6, at 5:30 pm. If you have anything you would like the committee to discuss with Pastor Penny, please see Jim Rinehimer, Cindy Heller, Barb DeLuca, Rosemary Myers, Bob Heller or Gary Eigenbrod.

### CONSISTORY

#### E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR CONSISTORY

A "group" e-mail address has been set up so that you can contact members of the consistory by using just one address: [consistory@emmanuel-ucc.org](mailto:consistory@emmanuel-ucc.org).

The **Consistory** will meet on Thursday, April 22, at 6:30 pm.

## UPCOMING DATES

May 1 - Spring Clean Up Day

May 3-9 - VISION Sponsorship Week

May 9 - Mother's Day

May 12 - Genesis Project ("Going Green" Seminar)

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

### APRIL 2010

I have made a "2010 Volunteer Schedule" sign-up sheet for those who would like to be Greeters, Liturgists and Acolytes. Please pick a date or two (or three). This way you can choose the dates when you are available, instead of having them assigned by me. For the liturgists, I will provide a copy of the bulletin either by paper for you to pick up or via e-mail, for your review before Sunday morning. Thanks. Denise

#### April 4

Greeters: Connie and Alecia Myers

Liturgist: Dave Horensky

#### April 11

Greeters: Dave and Rosemary Myers

Liturgist: Roy Baker

#### April 18

Greeters: Sam Dauber and Richie Lenahan

Liturgist: Meredith Martin

#### April 25

Greeters: Justin and Eric Rinehimer

Liturgist: Frank Partington

#### OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave & Rosemary Myers

Clifford & Gladys Readler

Diana Decker

John and Linda Jankowski

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

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

**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

**MARCH 2010**

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April 4

- Greeters: Connie and Alecia Myers  
 Liturgist: Dave Horensky

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**OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS**

- Dave & Rosemary Myers  
 Clifford & Gladys Readler  
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 John and Linda Jankowski