

The Messenger

February 2010

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

SPECIAL YOUTH GROUP MEETING!!

The Youth Group will meet after worship on January 31 to make preparations for their St. Valentine's Dinner Fundraiser. They will then have a fun day and go to the movies to see Alvin and the Chipmunks.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

HOAGIE AND PIZZA PICK UP

Anyone who ordered hoagies or pizza from our Cub Scouts is asked to **please pick them up before 12 noon on Saturday, February 6.** Thanks for supporting our Scouts.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

COMMUNION

We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** on Sunday, February 7, during our regular Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 am.

SCOUT SUNDAY

Members of our Scout Dens/Troop will be joining us on February 7 for Scout Sunday. They will participate as greeters, readers and ushers. To show their appreciation for all our support, they invite everyone to stay after worship for a coffee hour sponsored by them.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

TWILIGHTER'S MEETING

The Twilighters will meet on February 10 at 12:00 pm for a covered dish lunch.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

The Youth Group will be serving a delicious spaghetti dinner after worship on February 14 in our Fellowship Hall. Bring your sweetheart, friends, family, and neighbors for a romantic(?) meal. Your donation of \$6 per person will help the youth afford to go to special events and activities.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of the Youth Group will be on February 14 at 6:30 pm.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

ASH WEDNESDAY SUPPER AND SERVICE

We will begin our Supper and Service Lenten meals on February 17. The supper will be served at 6 pm with the service following at about 7 pm. Anyone wishing to sponsor a supper can sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

PNEC WINTER YOUTH EVENT

FEBRUARY 19 TO 21

The PNEC Winter Youth Retreat will be held from Friday, February 19, through Sunday, February 21. Two of our youth, Allison and Kimmy Bernetski, will be attending with Tina Kensinger.

OPERATION SNOWFLAKE

If our Worship Services need to be cancelled due to bad weather, please tune in to radio stations WARM, Magic 93, 97BHT, 97.9X, or JR93.7.

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From The Pastor's Desk

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Your response to the victims of the earthquake in Haiti has been very gratifying. We will continue to collect our One Great Hour of Sharing monies to send to the UCC for a couple more weeks. Besides money, our Sunday School children are going to be making Hygiene Kits for Church World Service. I am going to talk to the other churches in the Wapwallopen Ministerium about making Hygiene kits and Baby kits. If you have an interest in putting together the needed items the items and directions for putting them together are published in this newsletter. There will surely be a long time need so we don't have to hurry. We do want to continue with our prayer support as well as financial support.

Our Scout troops will be worshipping with us on the first Sunday in February. They use our church weekly but seldom see us while they are here. Let's make them feel very welcome as they say "thank you" with coffee hour after the service. This will be Communion Sunday so you can just come and enjoy the goodies provided by the Scouts.

It's almost time to be preparing ourselves for Easter. Ash Wednesday is Feb. 17. As last year we will be sharing mealtime together at 6pm before our service at 7pm. If you would like to prepare a simple meal for one of the suppers (about 20 people) please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. It's a time to enjoy fellowship with our community of believers and also to give service to your fellow Christians. Jesus calls us to service. Let's honor that call during Lent.

This year instead of giving up something for Lent why don't you add something? A time of service, an increased effort to prayer, attending a Wednesday night gathering, or maybe even inviting someone to church. Think about what you can do to draw closer to God during this holy time. I realize we are all busy but try to give just five minutes extra to your walk with God – maybe it will even become habit.

I do thank God for you each day. May God's blessings be all over you!

Pastor Penny

Our Condolences

Janice Rinehimer passed away on January 13, 2010. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kathleen and Pat and their families and we pray for God to ease their sorrow.

Clark Ogan, father of Bonnie Shafer, passed away on January 18, 2010. We pray for God's comfort for Bonnie and her family in their time of grief.

Thank You

Mary Rinehimer would like to thank everyone who helped with the Altar Committee this past year. It is wonderful to have people step in and to know that you have friends who will be there to get the job done, and done right.

The Emmanuel Cemetery Association would like to thank Lonnie Rinehimer for his dedication and great job for maintaining the cemetery all these years.

I would like to thank the Sunday School for the fruit basket. It is nice to be remembered by you all. Esther Heller

Thank You (continued)

It was so thoughtful of the Sunday School to make a fruit basket for me. I really appreciated it. Martha Grosz

We receive a thank you card from Sherri Hoch and Stan Stein. They appreciate all our love and support in response to Sherri's operation. She still has a ways to go but is steadily improving. Keep praying.

Chris Krout and his wife, Laura, and their children, Chris and Brittany, expressed their thanks for the monetary gift we donated after they lost everything in the fire.

Bethany Childrens Home sent two thank you letters – one for our Christmas donation of \$300 and the other for our Christmas gifts for the youth.

Phoebe-Devitt Homes sent a thank you letter for our benevolence donation of \$700.

All letters and cards are posted on the bulletin board in the bell tower so you can read the details, especially in the letters from Bethany and Phoebe which outline how much these gifts mean to them.

DISASTER RELIEF

The earthquake in Haiti has been devastating. Just imagine our local cities leveled to the ground. Church World Services is helping to meet emergency needs in the aftermath of the earthquake. Within 24 hours after the quake, CWS and its partners began providing basic supplies. It is working with partners (including the United Church of Christ) to provide disaster relief. CWS is asking for two types of kits which are desperately needed: Baby Kits and Hygiene Kits. The Sunday School is making hygiene kits as their February mission project, but everyone is welcome to donate more.

Baby Kit: 6 cloth diapers, 2 t-shirts (not onesies), 2 washcloths, 2 gowns or sleepers, 2 diaper pins, 1 sweater or sweatshirt, 2 receiving blankets (1 can be hand-knitted or crocheted). All items need to be new. Just wrap them all inside one of the receiving blankets and secure it with the 2 diaper pins.

Hygiene Kit: 1 hand towel (about 16" by 28"); 1 washcloth; 1 wide-tooth comb; 1 nail clipper; 1 bar of soap (bath size in its wrapper); 1 toothbrush; and 6 band-aids. Please put them in a 1-gallon zip-lock bag. *Do not put toothpaste in since they will add special toothpaste with an extended expiration date before the kits are sent to Haiti.*

2009 Giving Summary

| Amount Given | Number of Envelopes |
|------------------|---------------------|
| \$ -0- | 34 |
| \$1 to 10 | 21 |
| \$11 to 50 | 31 |
| \$51 to 100 | 20 |
| \$101 to 500 | 43 |
| \$501 to 1,000 | 16 |
| \$1,000 to 1,500 | 12 |
| \$1,501 to 2,000 | 5 |
| \$2,001 to 2,500 | 2 |
| \$2,501 to 3,000 | 5 |
| \$3,001 to 3,500 | 2 |
| \$4,501 to 5,000 | 1 |
| Total Envelopes | 192 |

CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, February 10, 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.

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 7. 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.

EMMANUEL CEMETERY

The Emmanuel Cemetery has burial lots and cremation lots for sale to members and non-members. For more information call Dave Myers at 868-3655.

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| William Eckrote | Chairman |
| Clifford Readler | Treasurer |
| Dave Myers | Secretary |
| Stanley Stein | Trustee |
| Allen Dennis | Trustee |
| Stanley Stein | Cemetery Caretaker |

EVENING SERVICES IN LENT

The season of Lent is almost here. Beginning with the Ash Wednesday service on February 17, 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. If you are able to sponsor a meal, please sign-up on the sheet on the table in the Narthex.

SCOUT SUNDAY

On Sunday, February 7, members of our Cub Scout Pack and Girl Scout Troop will join in worship with us. This is a special year for the Boy Scouts – the 100th anniversary of the Scout movement in America. Lord Robert Baden-Powell (1857-1941) was a British Army lieutenant-general. He enjoyed hiking and camping so much that he wrote the book *Aids to Scouting* for soldiers. Teachers and youth leaders started using it to instruct young boys and so Lord Baden-Powell rewrote it as *Scouting for Boys*. Soon there were Boy Scout groups all over England. Shortly after that, the Scouting movement came to America. February 8, 1910, is the official beginning of the Boy Scouts in America. Given the Boy Scouts values, many churches sponsored packs and, as we are evidence, still sponsor them today. Scout Sunday is celebrated the Sunday before February 8 each year.

YOUTH GROUP

ST. VALENTINE'S DINNER

The Youth Group will serve a St. Valentine's Day Dinner. Everyone is invited and please bring friends and family. We are raising funds for special projects and to go to some awesome Christian events. The cost for the dinner is \$6.00 per person. It is planned to be a traditional spaghetti dinner (like in *Lady and the Tramp* so bring that special someone). Just joking – everyone is invited, with or without sweethearts. So that we know how much food to prepare, please sign-up on the sheet on the table in the Narthex. Thanks for supporting our youth.

SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY

As we have done for the past several years, we will ask for monetary donations for Soup-er Bowl Sunday. This money will be used during our 30-Hour Famine to purchase food to restock the Food Bank. Please help us to help other people in our neighborhoods as we fight famine around the world. The **30 Hour Famine is set for March 26 and 27**. Keep watching for more on this, too.

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

Hunter Rinehimer participated in the Spelling Bee at Rice Elementary and advanced to 3rd place overall for the Fifth Grade. Congratulations, Hunter!! Buzz,buzz.

Kimmy Bernetski is one of the students participating in the Crestwood NSAS Endeavor contest. NAASA selects teams of middle and high school students to test their science experiments in microgravity competitions that simulate the microgravity in space. The full news article picturing Kimmy and her fellow students is on the bulletin board near the front door. (Talk about setting your sight high and looking to the skies!!)

Sunday School News

As we have been reminded constantly, the earthquake in Haiti caused great hardship. For our mission project this month, the Sunday School will be assembling hygiene kits. The packages should include:

1 hand towel (about 16" by 28"); 1 washcloth; 1 wide-tooth comb; 1 nail clipper; 1 bar of soap (bath size in its wrapper); 1 toothbrush; and 6 band-aids. Please put them in a 1-gallon ziplock bag. Do not put toothpaste in since they will add special toothpaste with an extended expiration date before the kits are sent to Haiti.

It is hard to imagine being without the basics for keeping ourselves clean. In America, even the grimmest boy (or girl) can wash up whenever he or she wants (or the parents make them). Thanks for helping our kids provide a way for other kids to keep clean.

Lisa Rinehimer

MUG SHOTS

Check the front entrance bulletin board for the following mug shots:

Brooke Aton, Morgan Hodle, Brandi Aton and Samantha Kotarsky are featured as part of the crew that wrapped gifts for the children of the McKinney Clinic during our Sunday School Christmas Party. Also in the picture is **Alyssa Shuman** (can't you tell by the curly blonde hair in the foreground of the picture?), with **Nate Kamowski, Cindy Heller and Cadence Ring** in the background.

The Crestwood Middle School Student Council wrapped presents for Valley Santa, a program which purchases and distributes gifts to needy children. **Kimmy Bernetski** is pictured with the other members of the council on the front entrance bulletin board.

The Boys and Girls Basketball Teams of Crestwood sponsored children from the community to provide them with Christmas gifts. One of the team members is our own **Courtney Kania**. Coach Isaiah Walker encourages his teams to participate in community service as an opportunity to give back and say thank you for all the support they receive.

Our **Cub Scout Pack 433** was busy during the holidays with a Christmas Party held in the Fellowship Hall. You can see them hamming it up with their Santa hat in the picture.

The **Cub Scouts** also sponsored a fundraiser for the **Chris Krout family fund**. Chris and his family lost everything they owned in a fire recently. The Pack held a benefit which featured semi-pro wrestling league, Action Unlimited Anthracite Wrestling. All proceeds were donated to the fund. **Hunter Rinehimer** is in two of the pictures and, if you look in the background, so is his father, **Pack Leader Ron Rinehimer**.

HALL RENTAL AGREEMENT REVISED

Due to increased costs, we are revising our Fellowship Hall Rental agreement. There will be a \$200 deposit to reserve the hall, half of which (\$100) may be refunded if the hall is left in good order and clean. The deposit will be the same whether a member or non-member rents the hall. This change will be effective January 1, 2010.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONSISTORY

The **Consistory** will meet on Thursday, February 18, at 6:30 pm.

UPCOMING DATES

- Feb. 6 – Cub Scout Hoagie Sale Pick-up
- Feb. 7 – Cub Scout Sunday – Coffee Hour sponsored by our Scouts
- Feb. 14 – Sweetheart Dinner after Worship
- Feb. 17 – Ash Wednesday – Supper at 6 pm and Worship Service at 7 pm
- Feb. 19 to 21 – PNEC Winter Youth Event
- Feb. 24 – Lenten Supper at 6 pm; Worship 7 pm

NEWSLETTER INFO DEADLINE

The deadline for information for the March Messenger is Wednesday, **February 17**. Please get all information to me before this date.

Thanks, Denise

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 2010

February 7

Greeters: Scout Members
Liturgist: Scout Members

February 14

Greeters: Rosemary and Dave Myers
Liturgist: Jill Bernetski

February 21

Greeters: Connie Davis and Caroline Cronce
Liturgist: Sam Dauber

February 28

Greeters: Meredith Martin and Alecia Myers
Liturgist: Dave Myers

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave & Rosemary Myers
Clifford & Gladys Readler
Diana Decker
John and Linda Jankowski

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 as been cleaned by our volunteers for over 12 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.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- February 1, 2003.....Pastor Penny and Archie Passmore
February 14, 1988.....Bob and Rhonda Madigan
February 15, 1991.....Brian and Priscilla Farrell

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FEBRUARY 2010**

February 7

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Liturgist: Scout Members

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