

The Messenger

April 2015

Holy Week Services

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER AND SERVICE

On Maundy Thursday, April 2, 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 3 – GOOD FRIDAY

GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE

On Good Friday, April 3, we will join with churches of the Mountain Top Ministerium for an ecumenical service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Mountain Top. The service will begin at 12:00 pm. We welcome everyone to this community worship service.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

EASTER!

Our Easter celebration begins at 6:30 am with our SonRise service, an inspiring ceremony to begin our most important holiday. After this service, we have a delicious breakfast in our Fellowship Hall. At 9:00 am, our children and youth will meet for a celebration of their own during our Sunday School time. Again we will celebrate the victory of our Risen Savior at 10:30 am for our Sunday Worship Service. Come –sing hallelujah! Praise the Lord! **CHRIST IS RISEN!!**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will meet on April 8 at 12:00 pm for their monthly meeting. "Admission" is one dish to share. Come join us for a delicious lunch.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

TURKEY SUPPER

On April 18, we will hold our annual Spring Turkey Supper. There are posters on the table in the Narthex and a sign-up sheet for when you can help. Don Eroh has tickets for you to sell and Allen Dennis is signing up people to roast turkeys. 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.

(Hopefully we don't really need this announcement, but....)



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

As I was doing some research for what to say this week in all the services I came across the song “*Trust His Heart*” by Babbi Mason. The first verse and the chorus say:

All things work for our good
Though sometimes we can't
See how they could
Struggles that break our hearts in two
Sometimes blind us to the truth.

Our Father knows what's best for us
His ways are not our own
So when your pathway grows dim
And you just can't see Him,
Remember you're never alone

God is too wise to be mistaken
God is too good to be unkind
So when you don't understand
When don't see His plan
When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart

Sometimes there are things that happen – there are things that are said that we just can't understand but we have to trust God's heart. We have to trust that God has a plan and we have to do a lot of praying to be able to trust as we should. God knows what is best for us. “*Be still and know that I am God.*” (Psalm 46:10)

Holy Week and Easter are a mystery to us. Jesus was doing great and wonderful things on the earth. People were beginning to follow and understand what God's love was all about. Why did he have to die?

We should be so humbled to know that Jesus had to die to save us from sin and death. He died for you and for me so that we could have eternal life. What a gift from God! And we must examine our hearts to see how we repay God for the saving grace that comes to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Now I found a special breakfast menu for you.

A plate of love
A bowl of peace
A spoon of hope
A fork of care
And a glass of prayer.

Enjoy your meal for you are under God's care.

God Bless! Pastor Penny



Condolences

We extend our condolences to Roy and Betty Baker and Kristine and Eric Walck on the passing of Roy's brother, Quentin, on February 22. May God's peace comfort you in your time of sorrow.

Our sympathy goes out to Gwen and Peter Sakowski on the passing of their son, Craig, on March 7. We pray for God's support and love to sustain you in your grief.

We offer our sympathy to Jill, Mike, Allison, Kimmy and Michelle Bernetski on the passing of Jill's father, James Sowa on March 20. We ask God to sustain you with his love and grace.

Thank You

Pauline Dennis would like to thank everyone for all their gifts, cards, well-wishes, calls and prayers as she battles cancer. Your continuing support is a comfort and gives her strength to undergo her treatments.

We received a thank you letter from the Volunteers of America on behalf of Ruth's Place. We recently donated some hand and body soap to this organization which provides emergency shelter, case management, group services and resources to women experiencing homelessness throughout Luzerne County.

TURKEY SUPPER DATES

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

On **Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m.**, tables are set up, and the vegetables are cleaned and cut up for the pickled cabbage.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

Early **Friday morning at 8:00 a.m.** we start making the pickled cabbage and stuffing. (Some foods are just better when their flavors can mingle – just watch the cooking shows, you'll see.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. we start cleaning the meat off the turkeys, which is easier if the turkeys are warm. Those of you who clean your own turkeys and then deliver them really help to speed up this process. Final food preparations are made at 2:30 p.m. - making potatoes and gravy, and heating up the turkey, vegetables and stuffing so that everything is hot and ready for 3:00 p.m. **Actually serving the supper 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 7 pm it's nice to have a clean-up crew come in.** The tables need to be cleared, tablecloths and chairs wiped down, Sunday School rooms put back into order and the walls put back up. The roasters and pots are washed and put away until the next supper. The kitchen cleaned and floors washed and vacuumed. Come out and lend a hand. This is a great way to support our church and its missions and *have fun* while doing it!!

Sunday School News

Bake Sale during the Turkey Supper

We will need baked goods to sell for our fundraiser during the Turkey Supper. Please try to drop them off before 3:00 so we can get them packed and priced. We truly appreciate your support so that we can have a great Sunday School for our kids.

300 CLUB and SILENT AUCTION

**Hurry up and get your tickets
for our 5th annual 300 Club fundraiser!**

Mark your calendars and get ready for a great day of fun, food and prizes. On Saturday, June 20, we will hold our annual 300 Club from 12 to 6 pm. For tickets or to help out, please see Jim Rinehimer, Allen Dennis or any Consistory member.

TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, April 8, for a pot-luck lunch at 12:00 pm. Bring a dish and enjoy a good meal and great company. Call Lois Eigenbrod or Mary Eroh for more information.

Talent in Bloom

Warm up your voices, tune up your instruments, brush up on your reading resonance and bring your best dance routine to our Talent in Bloom Fundraiser event. We'll showcase our talents on Saturday, May 16, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Whatever your gift, we'd like to see you perform or present it. Brad and Jennis Bunnell are coordinating the talent show which is open to all of our area churches. We've sent flyers inviting them to join us in celebrating our local skills. There will also be items auctioned off for the benefit of each congregation. Whatever the members bring: photographs, paintings, hand-crafted items, poetry, gourmet baked goods, handyman services, etc. will be auctioned off for the benefit of the congregation that brought them. Presentation of talent selections and auctioning of items will be intermingled throughout the evening with beverages and snacks available to purchase. There are sheets on the narthex table for you to sign up your talent and/or auction items. Get practicing, get creating and get your friends and family together for a wonderful evening of community fun and fellowship.

YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP

The Youth Group will be heading to Virginia for this year's mission trip. Many elderly and needy people live just inland of the beautiful beaches and tourist sites. The homes they live in are in disrepair and need renovation. Our youth will provide help to get homes repaired and maintained, and offer hope by reaching out in Christian service. Work will include general home repair, painting, and deck and wheelchair access construction. They will be going from June 21 to 27 (Sunday to Saturday). The cost per person is still \$289 so they have some fundraising projects coming up. Please support them as they represent Emmanuel UCC and bring help and hope to people who need our assistance. Anyone who would like to join them on the trip, please see Pastor Penny.



**Remember to get your
Weis and Carone's cards!**

This is a great way to support the Youth Group without spending anything extra. You're just going to spend that money at the grocery store anyway so why not give the Youth Group some help with their finances? For every \$1,000 worth of cards they sell, they make \$50. Please see Marc on Sunday mornings or you can call Denise at the church office (868-5675) during the week.

EMMANUEL GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

In addition to the Youth Group's Weis and Carones Card Fundraisers, we have a Gift Card Fundraiser which is a great way to help our church. The Fundraiser Sheets are on the table in the narthex. Just look over the list (and there's a lot to choose from) and mark how many cards you want. As with the Youth Group's fundraiser, this is essentially a "no cost" fundraiser. You are just purchasing gift cards in the amount that you would normally spend at that store or restaurant. The fundraising part is that Emmanuel purchases them at a discount which helps our bottom line. Please pay Jim Rinehimer for your choices.

YOUTH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Honor Rolls are out and we've got some smart kids on them:

Rice Elementary Honor Roll: Brooke Rinehimer

Crestwood Middle School:

Principal's Honors: Michelle Bernetski, Kristen Kania

Honors: Nate Kamowski, Morgan Rinehimer

CONSISTORY MEETING

The next Consistory meeting will be on Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 pm.

3^d Annual Golf Tournament August 29, 2015

Get ready to tee off again on August 29 for our 3rd annual Golf Tournament! So save the date and practice those drives!! More information and details will be available in future issues.

PICTURE PERFECT

Check the front entrance bulletin board for the following pictures:

Our Cub Scouts are pictured earning their Handyman Activity badge. They visited Jack Williams Tire Company on February 19. With the supervision of Jack Williams employees, they learned about changing a tire, replacing an automotive bulb, and checking oil level and air pressure. Their "older brother" Troop 434 then showed them how to care for their bicycles by properly lubricating and tightening the chain, inflating tires, fixing a flat and adjusting the seat and handlebars.

UPCOMING DATES

May 16 Talent in Bloom
June 20 300 Club
Aug. 29 3rd Annual Golf Tournament

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Apr. 5

Sonrise Service

Greeters: Gene and Janice Broyan

Liturgist: Jill Bernetski

Regular Service:

Greeters: Judy Cybulski and Connie Davis

Liturgist: Denise Dean

Apr. 12

Greeters: Camille Daniels and Donnie Myers

Liturgist: Sharon Moyer

Apr. 19

Greeters: Gene and Janice Broyan

Liturgist: Brooke Rinehimer

Apr. 26

Greeters: Connie Davis and Carol Duffy

Liturgist: Jill Bernetski

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave Myers

Dwain Straight

Jim Rinehimer

Caroline and Josh Cronic

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

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