

The Messenger

September 2015

RALLY DAY!!

SEPTEMBER 11

WELCOME BACK to another **GREAT YEAR** at *Emmanuel UCC*!! Our first day of Sunday School will be Rally Day, Sept. 11 at 9:00 am. We'll be practicing for the special worship service centered around **US**. Then we'll have a picnic and play tons of games and bounce around in the MoonWalk. **You just gotta come and -**

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!!! MORE KIDS = MORE FUN!!

Our LIVE Sunday School Theme is rockin' the house! The songs are cool with awesome sound! Plus, you never know what to expect since everything comes out of our *Hands On Bibles*. They're specially designed for us - easy to understand and filled with amazing experiments, surprising facts and mind-bender puzzles!! LIVE is especially for Young Christians, from kindergarten to 6th grade - ONLY! So come check it out and **bring your friends!**

Teen Talk

Our Teen Talk is for anyone in 7th grade and above. We meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am to talk about God and Jesus, how our lives are influenced by them and how we can be an influence to others around us. There are so many things that try to manipulate us away from God. Come to Teen Talk and find other teens who want to make their faith stronger and be better at dealing with ideas and things that pull us away from being Christians.

CHOIRS RESUME

Summer's over and it's time for the choirs to get back in tune. We welcome all singers and players to join us in "making a joyful noise, worshipping the Lord with gladness and coming to him with singing"(see Psalm 100).

The Kid's Choir is for anyone from age 3 age to 3rd grade. We have a great time learning fun songs. Our practice is on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:00 pm.

There's a new choir this year for Youth in 4th grade through high school. Our songs will be more geared to your abilities to perform a bit more complicated music, but still with a fun twist. Practices are Sunday at 9:00 am.

The Chancel Choir practices at 7:00 pm for all those older than elementary school age who love to praise the Lord in song and music. We perform a variety of music, from praise to gospel to traditional.

CROP WALK

October 2

Mark your calendars for the first Sunday in October and get your hiking shoes out! The annual CROP Walk will start from Emmanuel at 1:00 pm. We have participated in this hunger-awareness event for many years, earning funds not only for Church World Service, but also receiving a portion of our fundraising back to use to restock our own Wapwallopen Ministerium Food Bank.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ

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From The Pastor's Desk

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

The past three Sundays have taken us in interesting directions. We have gone from promises to puzzles to rejections! An odd journey! But even the oddest of journeys have words that catch our attention. These may have caught your attention.

- From the message for 8/7 (“A Promising People – A Promising God”), reflecting on Abraham’s inability to reach the “homeland” promised by God:

“While we yearn for that ‘true homeland,’ we prepare ourselves through a life of faithfulness – faithfulness built upon a lasting faith in the One who makes the promise, the Promising God.”

- From the message for 8/14 (“The Final Piece of the Puzzle”), reflecting on our faithful ancestors who also did not experience the fulfillment of God’s promise:

“We are to allow Christ to be the Perfecter of our faith – so that we can participate in the fulfillment of God’s promise – the coming of God’s Kingdom.” Also, “Jesus Christ – the final piece of the puzzle – is not the finishing line, but the starting line.”

- For the message for 8/28 (“Responding to Rejection”), which draws together faith and the nature of the God whom we worship:

“God is our ‘assurance policy’ for all the times when we are rejected. The immediate pain may be severe; we may feel helpless and hopeless. But God assures us that there is comfort on the way. God yearns for the opportunity to embrace us with love. God is waiting for the invitation to share the difficult part of the journey. In an active, life-giving way, God will provide what is needed - the ‘finest wheat’ and ‘honey from the rock.’ Let us remember those images when we have been rejected by others.”

From those messages, remember this: (1) We are called to live lives of faithfulness. (2) Jesus Christ should be the focal point and the starting point for our lives. (3) When we feel rejected, let us reach out to God who is ready to embrace us with a love that comforts and makes whole.

Those are simple words, but challenging ones, especially when facing the complex issues of today and the nature of human relationships. However, sometimes the simple path is the most direct one to life and peace, especially when God is involved.

May we all experience the very best of God’s Blessings in all parts of our lives!

Rev. Stout

PS: Please remember - I can be reached by phone at 409-658-7136 (cell) or e-mail at cstout53@earthlink.net - please contact me if a need/emergency arises. I will also be available at the Church on Sunday morning or Tuesday usually from 9am-1pm. I can be available by appointment at other times/days that may be more convenient for you.



CONGREGATIONAL CORNER TWILIGHTERS

The Twilighters will meet on Wednesday, September 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.

Thank You

It’s been 14 years since I started working as the Church Secretary. Now, I am resigning to spend more time with my family. Landyn turned 2 in July and Abbigayle is due near the end of the month. I will be watching them while Glynis works (her turn ☺). I am grateful for all the wonderful people who I have worked with and will remember them with deep appreciation. Thank you so much, Denise

Church Secretary Position Search

As has been mentioned in the announcements before worship service, I am resigning as secretary of Emmanuel. It has been a great 14 years, but I am looking forward to spending more time with my grandchildren (Landyn's sister, Abbigayle, is expected at the end of September, beginning of October). I will still be involved with the children and youth as a teacher and choir director and will also direct the Christmas program and VBS if I am needed. I thank everyone who supported me and helped out in so many ways. You have all been so good to me. Denise

Church Secretary - Part Time

Description

The Church Secretary assists the Pastor and congregation by providing administrative support; such as preparing weekly bulletins, monthly messenger newsletter, scheduling meetings, handling reports, and conducting special projects as assigned. The Church Secretary will also handle all office duties such as maintaining policies, compile financial reporting, and preparing audits. Individual must have excellent organizational skills and can work independently.

Qualifications

Education:

High School Diploma or GED required.
Associates Degree or Business school education preferred.

Experience:

Typing skills required (50 wpm).
Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Outlook, Excel, and Quicken.
Strong interpersonal skills and organizational skills a must.

Job

Church Administration

Primary Location

PA-Mountaintop

Organization

Emmanuel United Church of Christ

Working Location

Administration

Employee Status

Part-time

Forecasted paid hours per shift

4

Forecasted hours per pay week

20

Shift

Day Shift

Teen Talk on Sunday Mornings

Teen Talk is back on Sunday mornings starting on September 18 at 9:15 am. This is our own time to dig deeper into our faith. It's not just another "Sunday School class" or Bible Study. It's all about us – who we are, what's happening in our lives right here and now, and how does any of this relate to God and our faith. We'll be discussing the important things going on in the world, our town and our lives. And if you have any particular ideas to discuss, just give them to me. We're looking for everyone in 7th grade and up to come out and talk about how God really relates to us – not just in theory, but in reality. Denise



SINGSPIRATION 2016

In addition to practicing for our Sunday Services, the Chancel Choir will be practicing for their participation in **Singspiration at Stairville UMC**. Our choir has been a part of this terrific musical event for several years now and it has been so much fun. Our practice is on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. There's always room for another voice or musical instrument and we look forward to having new members join us. Singspiration will be held on **September 18 at 5:00 pm**. This is a great way for our local choirs, musicians and congregations to come together in praise of God. *"Break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Psalm 98:4"*

PICTURE PERFECT

Check the front entrance bulletin board for the following pictures:

Leah and Rowan Dietrich are shown at the Lehigh Valley Health Network Health Fair where they learned about making health choices.

Morgan Rinehimer was again recognized for her horsemanship (or is that horsewomanship?) at the Luzerne County Round Up on August 6, 2016. Check out those awards! Ride on, Morgan!

Ronnie Rinehimer is showing his great(?) form teeing off at our annual Golf Tournament at Sand Springs. That was a hole-in-one, right, Ronnie? No? Ah, too bad. ☺

Pete and Betty Dickson enjoyed an evening of music and fellowship at the Truth Café on August 12. A light meal and Christian music were on the menu.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

CONSISTORY

The next Consistory meeting will be on Thursday, September 15, at 6:30 pm.

UPCOMING DATES

Oct. 2 CROP Walk
Oct. 15 Turkey Supper



Please keep in mind we have a great Gift Card Fundraiser. This is through Great Lakes Scrip Center and includes tons of cards – from Advance Auto Parts to Wet Seal (young women's clothing). There's gift cards for everything under the sun. By purchasing the gift card through Great Lake Scrip, our church earns a percentage of the sale price. Lists are on the table in the narthex. Just write in the quantity of the cards you want and give the list and the amount due to Jim Rinehimer. He will order them and distribute them as they arrive. If you have any question, please see Jim. If more lists are needed, please tell Denise.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

September 4

Greeters:

Liturgist: Chris Deitrich

September 11

Greeters: Diana Decker and Mary Rinehimer

Liturgist: Lynne Stewart

September 20

Greeters: Barb DeLuca and Carol Duffy

Liturgist: Jim Rinehimer

September 27

Greeters: Lois Eigenbrod & Mary Eroh

Liturgist: Jim Stewart

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave Myers

Jim Rinehimer

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Alecia Myers	12 Gary Eigenbrod, Sr.	20 Michael E. Heller
2 John R. Walck	14 David J. Myers	23 Kristen Kania
2 Robert Duffy, III	15 Bradley Kotarsky	23 Jim Dean
4 Matthew Farrell	16 Leah Dietrich	27 Orceil Bloss
4 Lois Eigenbrod	16 Deborah Mellas	27 Eric Walck
4 Kristina Walck	16 Holly Hoffman	28 Amy Polashenski
8 Rhonda Keller	16 Peter Dickson, Sr.	28 Martha Grosz
10 Erin Kamowski	18 Ivan Hoyt	29 Michelle Bernetski
11 Brian A. DeLuca	19 William Schabener	30 Brian DeLuca
11 Hunter Rinehimer	19 Marc J. Davis	30 Paula Rinehimer

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 3, 1997.....	Fritz and Gloria Schreyer
Sept. 5, 1945.....	Lex and Anna Mae Koons
Sept. 10, 1983.....	Jeff and Tammy Dauber
Sept. 12, 1970.....	Bill and Patti Heller
Sept. 14, 1973.....	Tim and Connie Miller
Sept. 24, 1960.....	Pete and Betty Dickson
Sept. 24, 1977.....	John and Donna Walck
Sept. 24, 1994.....	Jeff and Joann Kotarsky
Sept. 26, 1998.....	David and Caroline Cronce
Sept. 27, 1975.....	Rich and Jayne Rotski

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