



The Aaronsburg Charge United Church of Christ

April, 2010

Phone: (814)349-5094

aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net

The Pastor Writes:



How fortunate we've been to have exceptionally beautiful spring weather so early in the year! It almost makes the snowy winter worth it. Blue skies, yellow daffodils, chirping robins and the greening of the grass and trees come as a welcome reminder of the new lease on life given each and every year.

*Easter does the same for our souls. Our inner being is renewed and we feel the promise of new life from the inside out. All of the old "stuff" that has burdened us for so long can be cast aside like an unneeded cocoon and we can spread our wings and fly into the days ahead with hope and joy. Why? Because Christ has declared our sins and former way of being as null and void. We don't need to dwell on the mistakes and pain of the past because they are **past**. We don't even have to worry about death. Its stinger has been removed and we are promised eternal life. Those who put their faith and trust in Christ will receive a whole new way of being that will trump anything this world can toss our way – good or bad! Amazing...*

May the power of the Risen Christ embrace us all!

Pastor Leigh



Prayer Chain

All Service Personnel and their families. All Charge Shut-ins: Polly Crader, Julie Haines, Gladys Hartley, Tom Hazel, Ellen Huey, Maxine Ross, and Bernice Warntz.

Haiti Earthquake Victims, Dorothy Alters, Ryan Balliett, Clinton Bonson, Emily Boob & Family, Fred Boob, Randall Boob, Mike Braucht, Terry Bressler, Isabel Brindle, Bob Brown, John "Jack" Brown, Kay Brown, Carol & Nelson Cook, Alex Corman, T.J. Coursen, Janie Crater, Suzanne Davidson, Janet Devinnay, Michael Dimock, Dr. Lillian Earle, Jean Eisenhuth, Karen Glasgow, Luke Haskell, Benjamin Hosterman, Jonathan Huey, Pat Kelly, Jacob Kerstetter (deployed to Iraq), Dean Krape Family, Robert Lingle Sr. Family, Dave Lingle, Marcia Lingle, Makayla Luse, Fred & Betty Mensch, Sam Moore, Carrie Neese, David E. Neese, Loretta Neff, Robert Neill, Dixie Ort, Amanda Rachau, The Ross Family, Brenda (Barb Rossman's sister), Shirley Rossman, Lowell Rote, Abigail Royer and Baby Gabriel, Warren Royer, Jackie Shawver, Ardell Smith & Family, Doris Z. Smith, Bernice Snyder, Shirley Snyder-Birth, Frank Stapleton, Family of Dean Stover, Evelyn Stover, Randall Stover, Randolph Swartz, Barb Tobias, Roy VanGilder, Adam Weaver Family, Mildred Wingard and Roxann Zarchin.

Please feel free to add/subtract from this list by calling your Consistory President. Please make the changes in your church's prayer chain board.

Salem Happenings

Salem's Mission Statement: Our mission goal is to service the community in a Christian way, to love one another and to worship God together seeking truth, justice and peace.

Corrections to the Annual Report - please change and add:

Page 23 - November 30 should be November 28

Page 25 - Under "Friends Attending" please add - Natasha Stover and Keyton & Kaden Gurner

I'm sorry about the mistakes, maybe it's time to fire me and hire someone new 😊

Well, when Salem is given a challenge, they step right up to the plate and hit a home run! On February 7, a special Congregational Meeting was held following morning worship to let everyone know that the Consistory had decided to insulate the outside walls of the church and to paint the sanctuary and the social room, hoping to have it done by Easter. Things got started on February 19 & 20 with the blown-in insulation. There was a work day held on February 27 and then the week of March 1, things really got moving. The inside of the sanctuary and the social room was painted. The insulation was finished on March 20, two whole weeks before Easter. At this time, the total cost has been \$1,793.76 which will be taken out of the gift money that Guy and Mabel Zerby gave to the church in memory of his parents and other relatives who used to attend Salem. Thank you to EVERYONE who helped with the huge project, I'm not going to name names because I'm sure I'd forget someone. The church looks so refreshing and some seem to think it's already helping with the heat. Praise the Lord!

I took a fruit basket to Roy VanGilder following his stay in the hospital and visited with him and Janet. We're glad to see them back in church.

The weather kept everybody from the Hoss's fundraiser night in February, but we still received \$25 in cash donations for that night. Don't forget the next one is a Tuesday night, April 20. Get the family together and go out in the middle of the week and enjoy yourselves.

Tasha Rearick and Phillip Rishel will be using the church for their wedding rehearsal on April 9 and for their wedding on April 10. Pastor Leigh will be officiating.

Salem Hill Haven will be using the social room on April 24 and June 26 for their First Aid refresher courses for their staff.

At this time, we have \$4,533.33 in the Parking Lot Paving Fund. Betty Stover has said the family wants the memorial monies received for Dean to go to the paving fund also. The total memorial monies received in memory of Dean to date is \$955, which would bring the fund up to \$5,488.33. Guy and Mabel Zerby gave Salem a gift of \$7000 to be used for insulating and parking lot paving. The insulating and painting are done with around \$5000 left over which will go into the Paving Fund also, bringing the total to around \$10,500. We'll have the exact amount once all the bills are paid for the insulation and paint supplies.

Jeff Stover, with the help of Les Crater, was getting ready for the mowing season. They scraped the stones out of the grass and spread them in the parking lot. Thanks, guys!

Is there anyone willing to help update Salem's brochure so we have it ready when a new minister is called? If you are interested, see Janie Shook, she has the disc from the last time.

We had 14 bunches of daffodils in church on March 21 for Daffodil Sunday. They were purchased by members of the congregation in honor and in memory of loved ones. The proceeds went to the American Cancer Society. Thank you to everyone who purchased a bunch.

It is always nice when the men cook and the women can kinda sit back and watch. With Ken Royer in charge, the men cooked and served a wonderful Lenten lunch following morning worship on March 21. The ladies furnished fruit and pastries. Everything was very good and filling. Of course, Joe had extra work to do when I spilled a whole glass of ice water on the table, chair, floor and in Frances' open purse. I'm so sorry, Frances - and thanks for helping to clean up the water, Joe. The men did the clean-up and we shared table communion led by Pastor Leigh. I really think the men enjoy treating the ladies once in a while. Thanks, guys - job well done!

Salem's Dates to Remember:

- April 4
 - Easter Sunrise Service at St. Peter's back lot 7:30 a.m. Light breakfast in social room.
 - Regular service as Salem 10:45 a.m. with communion.
- April 11
 - Northern Association Annual meeting, Emmanuel UCC, Tusseyville 1:45 p.m.
- April 18
 - Pot Luck Lunch following morning worship.
- April 19
 - Joint Spiritual Life Committee meeting 7:00 p.m.
 - Joint Consistory meeting 7:30 p.m. both at Salem!!
- April 20
 - Hoss's Fundraiser, see Donna Auman or Helen Sweeley for tickets.

May 20 - Northern Association Church Leaders' Banquet at Penns Valley High School 6:00 p.m.

Hopefully the nice weather we've been having is making everyone feel better. Get rid of the winter blues. Spring is officially here and buds are coming out everywhere. I hope your Spring is delightful and your Easter is full of family, fun, fellowship and remember Jesus, for without him, we would have not Easter.

Helen Sweeley

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild met on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, at St. Peter's at 7:15 p.m. with 5 members present. Helen Benner provided devotions. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$723.51.



OUTREACH: A motion was made by Marilyn Weaver and seconded by Helen Sweeley to earmark \$250 for fuel fund for the Millheim Outreach.

OLD BUSINESS:

Peanut butter Easter eggs will be made at the Lingle residence on March 27 for \$1 each. Orders will be taken in both churches.

Salem has 46 pounds of items for Operation Shoebox. St. Peter's needs to weigh our items. Tracy Ridenour will deliver the items to Campanis along with a \$50 check for postage from Women's Guild.

NEW BUSINESS:

We will be collecting items for Jared Box during the month of March.

We then had Bible Study. The next meeting will be April 6 with Leigh Pick providing devotions. We will be continuing with Bible Study of Chapter 30 of Max Lucado's book.

Brenda Ream Stover
Secretary

To the Joint Consistory and All the Wonderful Folks of the Aaronsburg Charge UCC,

Thank you for your generous check to help pay the expenses associated with the extra miles I will travel to continue my radiation & chemotherapy treatments. I have completed 5 days of radiation and had my first chemo session on Friday. So far, so good☺

Your cards, prayers and well wishes mean the world to me. I thank you for your generosity.

Jackie Shawver

p.s. A special thank you to Helen & Dave Sweeley for placing daffodils at Salem in my honor. What a thoughtful thing to do!



Worship Times - - - Worship Schedule for 2010

St. Peter's: 9:30 a.m. (Sunday school following worship)

Salem: 10:45 am

Communion is open to all who seek to know the Risen Christ and is offered 7 times per year. For more information, please call 349-5094 or email at aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net

WALK 'N TALK

Some of the rabbis of Jesus' time would often take their students on long walks as they talked about scripture, the Law and generally how to conduct their every day affairs in light of God's commands. Jesus also engaged in what is known as a *peripatetic* – "to walk around" – ministry. Jesus used nature and daily living as teaching tools to explain how God works in human life:...except a grain of wheat falls to the earth...consider the lilies of the field...the lesson of the fig tree...a man planted a vineyard...and many, many more examples abound.

With warmer weather approaching, some folks have indicated an interest in walking around the walker-friendly streets of Aaronsburg and talking as we go. We'll meet at St. Peter's and begin with prayer. Then we'll pick a direction and stride briskly taking note of God's creation or talking about how God was at work in our day. Or, we may consider one of the "nature" Psalms (8, 19, 29, 104, and 148) or ponder some current issue in the world.

All that's needed are some comfy walking clothes and shoes. The following is the proposed schedule:

Wednesday, April 7, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 21, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 28, 6:30 p.m.

Come join us!

F.W.A.M.

Friends with a Mission met on Saturday, March 20th at St. Peter's to fill Easter eggs for the egg hunt on March 27th. Over 2,200 eggs were stuffed. Thank you to everyone who donated money, candy or time to this event. Now just pray for sunny weather!!

New officers were elected. Ed Kerstetter, President, David Edwards, Vice President, Nicole Wolfe, Treasurer, and Pam Royer Secretary. Nicole reported that she could buy gift baskets from a local crafter for about the same price as the ones she hasn't gotten at Wal-Mart in the past. She felt these baskets were a lot better made and had nicer items in them. The group gave Nicole the OK to purchase these baskets.

Nicole also reported that the Millheim Fire Co. has approached her about joining our egg hunts next year. Our group has given a list of questions to Nicole and we will keep it on our agenda for discussion for next year. We really like how we designate how many eggs each child gets. That way we know each child leaves with eggs.

Our next meeting will be a social at David Edwards' house on Saturday, April 17 at 6pm. It will be a potluck.

Pam Royer, Secretary

*Aaronsburg Charge UCC
232 W. Aaron Square
Aaronsburg, PA 16820*

TO: