



The Aaronsburg Charge United Church of Christ

May, 2010

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The Pastor Writes:



It is a mellow spring morning and I'm sitting in the beautiful gazebo behind the parsonage. My dog, BeDelle, periodically chews on a dead bumblebee and spits it out, then lolls in the sun. The birds party melodiously nearby. Occasionally the noise from the traffic intervenes or a dog barks, but mostly there is silence.

What abundance! Every feeling in the body is awakened from the nearly muted senses of winter. In springtime life is filled with vibrant splotches of color; a symphony of sound; the feel and touch of sun, wind and rain; the fresh tang of rhubarb, the crisp sweetness of lettuce; and the rich smell of damp earth, spring flowers and tree blossoms. How deep and varied are the ways God draws our attention to the wonder of God's created world. And all this is but the anteroom into the presence of God.

Jesus' emergence from the cold, dark tomb was the spiritual equivalent of moving from winter to spring. Beyond the ordinary senses, our hearts and souls have been given an eternal gift, independent of external conditions. What we sense in these marvelous spring days is only a sampling of the feast that we are invited to enjoy each and every day because Christ rose from the grave.

In the days leading to Pentecost, let's prepare our hearts and souls for the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence that will provide the final linchpin that unites our entire beings with the one, triune God.

Peace,
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, John "Jack" Brown, Kay Brown, Carol & Nelson Cook, Alex Corman, T.J. Coursen, Janie Crater, Janet Devinney, Michael Dimock, Dr. Lillian Earle, Jean Eisenhuth, Karen Glasgow, Keyton Gurner, Luke Haskell, Benjamin Hosterman, Jonathan Huey, Pat Kelly, Jacob Kerstetter (deployed to Iraq), Marcia Lingle, Makayla Luse, Fred & Betty Mensch, Sam Moore, Carrie Neese, Loretta Neff, Robert Neill, Dixie Ort, Amanda Rachau, The Ross Family, Brenda (Barb Rossman's sister), Shirley Rossman, Abigail Royer and Baby Gabriel, Jackie Shawver, Ardell Smith & Family, Doris Z. Smith, Bernice Snyder, Shirley Snyder-Birth Family, Frank Stapleton, Family of Dean Stover, Evelyn Stover, Randall Stover, Randolph Swartz, Barb Tobias, Janet VanGilder, 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.

ST. PETER'S NEWS – MAY, 2010:

A big thank you to all who participated in the Palm Sunday drama and also the mime drama on Easter Sunday morning during worship. It added so much to our "Resurrection" experience. The cross of flowers was wonderful, too. Thank you to all who made that possible. Our Easter Sunrise Service was held in the Bartges' lot behind St. Peter's and it turned out to be a beautiful morning. It was much warmer than it has been in several years past. There were approximately 17 who attended and thanks to all who made the breakfast after the sunrise service possible.

Thank you to all who have provided beautiful flowers for worship each Sunday during the month of April, including all those who purchased Easter lilies.

Pastor Leigh, Janie Shook, Dave and Helen Sweeley and Marilyn Weaver attended the Northern Association Annual Meeting on April 11 at Emmanuel UCC in Tusseyville. The business of Northern Association was conducted and Allen Fluent, who is retiring at the end of June, gave an inspiring message. A worship service of Installation of Officers and Communion was held before concluding.

MAY	READER	FLOWERS	Monthly Greeter	Monthly Offering Counters
2	Bonnie DeBrasky	Lori Corman	Bonnie DeBrasky	Brenda Stover and Linda Musser
9	Bill Miles	Lori Corman		
16	Lori Corman	Brenda/Bonnie		
23	Marilyn Weaver	Brenda/Bonnie		
30	JOINT MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE -SALEM			

May Dates to Remember:

- May 3 – Search Committee Meeting with Char Burch – St. Peter's – 7:00 PM
- May 13 – St. Peter's Consistory – 7:00 PM – Devotions – Bonnie
- May 20 – Church Leader's Banquet – Penns Valley High School – 6:30 PM



NORTHERN ASSOCIATION LEADERS' BANQUET
May 20, 2010
6:30 p.m.
Penns Valley High School Cafeteria

Dr. Daryl Hollinger, Dean of the Chapel, Seminary musician and Adjunct Professor of Worship and Music at Lancaster Theological Seminary will be the speaker for this year's Leader's Banquet. He is employed as Minister of Music at St. Peter's UCC, Lancaster and has been active as a church musician for over thirty years. He is also the Director of the Ephrata Cloister Chorus and has given concerts in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, England, Bulgaria as well as parts of the US.

With the involvement of the participants in his program, people will be moved toward the front of the cafeteria following the meal to not only reduce the kitchen noise but also to have everyone feel an integral part of the program.

Cost for the meal is \$11.00 per person. The deadline for reservations is Sunday, May 2.



A WOMAN'S CONCERN PREGNANCY RESOURCE CLINIC is looking for someone from the local church to serve as an Ambassador for Life. They are looking for a dedicated Christian who is active in the church, committed to the life of the unborn, open to visiting the clinic and becoming acquainted with other Ambassadors, and willing to serve as an advocate in our local congregations. Please see Pastor Leigh for a complete listing of responsibilities or contact Jenny Summers, Executive Director at 234-7341 or jenny@awomansconcern.com.

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild met on Tuesday, April 6, 2010, at St. Peter's at 7:15 p.m. with 7 members present. Leigh Pick presented "How to Practice Lectio Divina" which is a step-by-step guide to praying the Bible and then we practiced this technique which was a very refreshing way to speak to God. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$869.78.



OUTREACH:

Motions were made by Janie Shook and seconded by Helen Sweeley to give \$100 to Ryan Balliett (serious auto accident victim), \$75 to the Autism Walk which is April 10, and \$75 to the Special Olympics Pennsylvania—games will be held June 10-12 at PSU.

OLD BUSINESS:

A total of 501 Easter eggs (387 peanut butter and 114 graham) were made at the Lingle residence. A thank you will be sent to the Lingle girls for their gracious assistance with this project and \$25 donation made to the Black Panther Riding Club after motion by Janie Shook and seconded by Marilyn Weaver.

A total of 80 pounds of items for Operation Shoebox was delivered by Tracy Ridenour to Campanis along with a \$150 check for postage.

A total of 38 Jared boxes were packed and Judith Waite (lives across from SP church and works at Lewistown Hospital) will deliver these along with Turbans for Love.

A thank you for \$100 from Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County for Haiti Relief was read.

NEW BUSINESS:

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County (HFHGCC) works in partnership with God and our communities to build simple, decent, affordable houses for qualified families in need of adequate shelter in Centre and Clinton Counties. During the month of September, we will be committing one month to focus thoughts, prayers, and actions for this need and collecting donations.

Janet VanGilder will be stepping down as president. Janie Shook and Tracy Ridenour will share the President role.

Helen cut and Janie sewed 16 Turbans for Love. These will be delivered to various Cancer Center locations.

Helen gave an update on the needs for Dakota school kits. We need scissors, packs of crayons, 8 ½ x 11 tablets, and construction paper. These will be collected during April and May and dedicated at the Memorial Day service.

The next meeting will be May 4 with Tracy Ridenour providing devotions. We will be continuing with Bible Study of Chapter 30 of Max Lucado's book.

Brenda Ream Stover
Secretary

Salem Happenings

Easter Sunrise Service was held at St. Peter's on the back lot and what a beautiful morning it was. Eighteen of us shared the morning and enjoyed Pastor Leigh's service. A wonderful breakfast was served in the social room afterward along with fellowship and some laughs. Thank you to St. Peter's for the wonderful breakfast, the blueberry coffee cake is always a winner in my book and Pastor Leigh's strata added a little warmth, yum. Following breakfast, St. Peter's had their regular worship service and so did Salem. Salem had 19 beautiful lilies adorning the church with their wonderful fragrance. The lilies were purchased by members of the congregation and very much appreciated, thank you.

Heckman Cemetery Board met at Salem in the kitchen the other Monday evening. We were happy that we could help them out with a place to meet.

Tasha Rearick and Phillip Rishel were married at Salem on April 10 with Pastor Leigh officiating. Congratulations and best wishes to the newlyweds. They were gracious enough to leave their flowers for Sunday morning.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the barrel for Hartman Center's Cabin 23 which is the cabin that the Northern Association adopted many years ago and is responsible for the upkeep on it. The bathroom needed to be handicapped accessible and the state law now requires a sprinkler system in the cabins. The work was started and still is in progress but they were short on funds, so the churches were asked to help. Salem opted to place a container at the front of the church to collect coins and paper money for things that people were grateful for and for peace. A sign-up sheet was available for people to guess how much was collected and the answer was revealed on "Laugh Sunday", April 11. Pastor Leigh was the closest guess and won the prize - a four roll pack of what else - toilet paper! I'm sure she's using it wisely. The total was \$326.18. Dave Sweeley took the barrel along with a check for that amount to the Annual Northern Association Meeting on April 11 where he presented it to the outdoor minister, Rev. Bruce Druckenmiller. The only thing was, till Dave gave it to Bruce, a couple people at the meeting deposited more money in the barrel, making the total \$366.18. Thank you to everyone who deposited money in the barrel!

Janie Shook, Dave Sweeley and I along with Pastor Leigh and Marilyn Weaver from St. Peter's attended the Annual Northern Association Meeting on April 11 at Emmanuel UCC in Tusseyville where Rev. Mike Smith is pastor. It was a very fast paced meeting with reports from all the committees, fellowship and refreshments, installation of new committee members and the closing service complete with communion. Area Conference Minister Allen Fluent who is retiring June 30 also had a few things to say. It was a good meeting.

Thank you to Robin Warntz for most graciously playing the organ on April 18. We really appreciate your willingness to help us out from time to time.

A pot luck lunch was held following worship on April 18 with only nine of us staying to enjoy our simple lunch of meat and fruit. We didn't have a big variety but what we had was very good and nobody went away hungry. Thank you to all nine for helping to clean up, done in a jiffy. Since there was only nine this year and only fifteen last year, I believe we will discontinue the pot luck for April.

Salem's Dates to Remember:

- May 9 - Mother's Day
- May 10 - Salem Consistory at the church, 7 p.m.
- May 20 - Northern Association Church Leaders' Banquet at Penns Valley High School 6:00 p.m.
See Janie Shook to make reservation ASAP, cost of the meal is \$11.
- May 30 - Joint Memorial Day Service at Salem, 11 a.m.

As always, remember to pray for the people on our Prayer Chain and those only known in each of your hearts. Happy Spring and Happy Mother's Day to all the ladies.

When I say that "I am a Christian", I am not shouting that "I am clean living". I'm whispering "I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven".

Helen Sweeley



Our Homebound, Nursing Home or Health Care Residents:

Pauline Crader
50 N. 3rd Street
Apt. 415
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Gladys Hartley
Salem Hill Haven
424 Heckman Cemetery Rd
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Tom Hazel
120 E. Beaver Ave., Apt 709
State College, PA 16801

Mrs. Ellen Huey
168 Long Street
PO Box 289
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Mr. & Mrs. Fredrick Mensch
PO Box 381
Millheim, PA 16854

Randall Stover
PO Box 153
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

Mildred Wingard
377 Paradise Road
PO Box 46
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Hazel Warntz
167 Cemetery Road
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

Mr. & Mrs. Guy Zerby
4412 Penns Valley Road
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Carrie Neese
Salem Hill Haven
424 Heckman Cemetery Rd.
Spring Mills, PA 16875

(If you would like to add someone to the Shut-in list, please submit to aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net or drop a note in the milk box on the front porch of the parsonage at 232 W. Aaron Square, Aaronsburg.)

DAKOTA SCHOOL KITS

Once again it's Dakota School Kit time sponsored by Women's Guild. We need the following:

- 8 1/2" x 11" tablets
- construction paper
- scissors and a few boxes of crayons.

Thank you in advance 😊



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