

The Aaronsburg Charge United Church of Christ

November, 2008

Rev. Faith McCausland

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The Pastor Writes:



Dear Friends,

As we go into this election, there has been much discussion, which does not serve to unite us but only to divide us (as a nation). My prayer for you is that you educate yourselves in truth, not media hype; that you take your citizenship right to vote seriously and not cavalierly. And in all things, that you prayerfully ask God's blessing upon our nation and all our brothers and sisters.

I hope that the following prayer, provided by Our Church's Wider Mission, will be of help as you make your decision and vote this November 4th.

A Faithful Citizen's Prayer for Discernment

God of grace and God of glory, on your people, pour your power.

Give me eyes to see, ears to hear, a heart to feel and wisdom to grasp today's injustices.

Help me name the truth. Help me discern the reality beneath the rhetoric.

Give me strength to recognize my obligations to all people in your neighborhood and to your creation.

Give me the widow's persistence.

Guide me to act on my convictions.

Let me not be tired or discouraged. Let me not feel alone.

Grant us wisdom. Grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.

-as printed in the "Message on Public Education 2008, UCC Justice & Witness Ministries (resources to support stronger and more equitable public schools..

Grace and peace,
Rev. Faith

Thursday Morning Bible Study Class 10 a.m. - St. Peter's

Beginning on November 6th, our morning Bible study will be reading the book, Why Jesus Makes Me Nervous, Ten Alarming Words of Faith, by Joy Jordan-Lake. This book is being read throughout our area conference and was recently discussed by our Northern Association Ministerium.

"Nice as it would be to frame Jesus as fun-loving, or a mercy-dispensing friend, the stories we have about him are a lot more disturbing than that.

When Jesus truly makes you nervous, he is worth living and dying for, and becomes the greatest source of meaning and purpose in life imaginable."

Books will be available at the church for \$6. Please bring your Bible to the group as well as the book. Come join us for a lively discussion, with lunch following at an area restaurant.

Thursday Evening 7 p.m. - St. Peter's Lectionary Bible Study

Nov 6 Micah 3: 5-12, 1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13, Matthew 23: 1-12

Nov. 13 Psalm 90: 1-8, 12, 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11, Matthew 25: 14-30

Nov. 20 Psalm 95: 1-7a, Ephesians 1: 15-23, Matthew 25: 31-46

Nov. 27 NO CLASS Happy Thanksgiving!

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.

Thank you so much to Lucinda Stover and her gang for decorating the church for Harvest Home on September 28. Once again everything looked so nice that we left it for a second week. All the food donations went to Salem Hill Haven where I know it has been appreciated. Thank you to everyone who donated and to the Stover gang for un-decorating, it looks a little bland now.

What a wonderful legacy Walter and Vivian Weaver left to St. John's by remembering them in their will. St. John's in turn remembered Salem and St. Peter's. It was a great surprise when Shane Royer called Janie Shook (consistory president) to the front of the church and presented her with a check for \$25,000! I think just about all of us were speechless. Shane said he hopes we invest it wisely and use the earnings from it – it is not to be used in place of everyone's weekly offering. Thank you so much to the members of St. John's for deciding to use your legacy in this manner.

Thank you to everyone who made baked goods for the Women's Guild stand at the Dutch Fall Festival. Women's Guild still has a few calendars left for sale at the price of \$6, they are in the Narthex.

We also sold 36 dish cloths for Salem's Paving Fund at the Fall Festival. They have gone up in price, so we have had to raise the price to \$1.25. Janie Shook has them on hand if you need some.

I took a fruit basket to and visited with Ellen Huey after her stay in the hospital. She was to the emergency room after that, but is back home slowly getting better from a virus and cold. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ellen and Jean.

Blessing of the Animals service was held October 18 in the Meditation Garden in front of St. Peter's. There were some out-of-towners and some neighbors brought their pets.

The Church Leaders' Retreat was held at Hartman Center on October 19. Donna & Gary Auman, Don Hampton, and Dave Sweeley represented Salem. It was a day to relax, refresh, reflect and look to the future.

Dates to Remember:

- October 26 - Deadline for reservations and money for Thanksgiving Meal.
- November 2 - Hymn Selection, St. Peter's 1:30 p.m. – Date changed from October 26.
- November 8 - Thanksgiving Meal at Gregg Township Fire Hall 6:30 p.m.
- November 9 - Salem Budget meeting 9:45 a.m. – officers only.
 - Ten Days for Peace service, St. John's UCC, Boalsburg 3 p.m. Ann Ard from the Women's Shelter in State College will be guest speaker on "Peace, not just for grownups". Child care Will be provided with activities.
- November 10 - Salem Consistory, 7:00 p.m. at the church.
- November 30 - Hanging of the Greens. Soup & Sandwich lunch after church. Santa & Treats: Donna & Gary Auman, Lois & Ken Royer, Betty & Dean Stover, and Donn Fetterolf. Please sign up at the Back of the church so we know how many children will be there.
- December 3 - Fund Raiser at Hoss's (4 Our Churches) - see Donna Auman or Helen Sweeley for cards.
- December 12 - Christmas in Millheim. Now that you know the date well in advance, maybe you can put it on your calendar to help with the Live Nativity.

Extend a helping hand to those who are less fortunate, maybe help a friend, a neighbor, or even a stranger get ready for winter. I have a feeling it's going to be a long, cold one. Please remember to pray for those on the Prayer Chain and anyone else you know that needs prayer.

Helen Sweeley

THANKSGIVING MEAL! THANKSGIVING MEAL!

Salem's Thanksgiving Meal will be at the Gregg Township Fire Hall on November 8 at 6:30 p.m. The meal will be ham and turkey with all the trimmings. This is for Salem and St. Peter's families and friends. Bonnie DeBrasky is taking reservations and collecting the money at St. Peter's, Helen Sweeley at Salem. Deadline for reservations & money is October 26. If you forget, call Helen by Monday morning 422-8996. The entertainment for the evening is "Ju-st Proclaim", maybe you heard them at the Fair this year.

Price: Adults - \$7.50, 5 to 12 year olds - \$3.00, and under 5 - Free.

Come on out and enjoy the evening with us!



Prayer Chain

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

Hurricanes Katrina Victims, Helen Allison, Dorothy Alters, Rev. Jack Archer, Mike Auman, Randall Boob, Mike Braucht, Terry Bressler, John "Jack" Brown, Kay Brown, Alex Corman, T.J. Coursen, Jody Covalt, Janie Crater, Robbi Davis, Michael Dimock, Dr. Lillian Earle, Gerald Fetterolf, Jean Frankenberger, Karen Glasgow, Luke Haskell, Benjamin Hosterman, Jonathan Huey, Jenny Keen, Pat Kelly, Jacob Kerstetter (deployed to Iraq), Dean Krape, Liz Krout, Bob Lingle, Sr., Dave Lingle, Marcia Lingle, Fred & Betty Mensch, Teenie Musser, Carrie Neese, David E. Neese, Robert Neill, Dixie Ort, Amanda Rachau, The Ross Family, Brenda (Barb Rossman's sister), Shirley Rossman, Warren Royer, Doris Z. Smith, Bernice Snyder, Shirley Snyder-Birth, Frank Stapleton, Barb Stover, Evelyn Stover, Randall Stover, Roy VanGilder, Lester & Marilyn Weaver, and Mildred Wingard.

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

St. Peter's News

Thanks to the generosity of St. John's former members, St. Peter's church has shared in the estate of Walter and Vivian Weaver. This is very substantial and will help immensely with the expenses of maintaining our church building. We cannot thank our brothers and sisters from St. John's enough for this gesture of Christian love and generosity.

Thank you to the Harvest Home committee members for decorating the sanctuary so beautifully for Harvest Home Sunday, September 28. Donated food items were given to the Millheim Food Bank.

Pastor Faith officiated at the funeral service of Mae Kline at St. Peter's on Tuesday, September 30. May was 103 years and 7 months old at the time of her death on September 26. She had been a member of St. Peter's. We praise God for her many years and extend our sympathy to her family on her passing.

There were 15 in attendance on Tuesday evening, September 30 when the Women's Guild sponsored an evening with Steve and Lisa Smith at St. Peter's. The Smiths spoke about their years of missionary work renewing the Christian Church in Germany. Lisa has recently received standing as a Pastor in the UCC and will be seeking the call to ministry in 2009. Thank you to Pastor Faith who provided housing for the Smiths, and thank you to Steve and Lisa for sharing their ministry with the Aaronsburg Charge. The Women's Guild provided refreshments for the evening.

Thank you to all those who provided foods and drinks for the Women's Guild food stand at the Fall Festival on October 4. Thanks to everyone's generosity, the Guild made a profit of \$306.

On Sunday, October 5, the Sacrament of Baptism was held for Kaiden and Jade Myers, children of Kris and Alisha Myers and grandchildren of Linda Musser and siblings of Paige. We had many of the family members present for the baptism. Congratulations to the family.

It was also nice to have our former Pastor, Keith Brenner, and wife Sherry in attendance for worship. The Brennens visit every year to attend the Haines Township Fall Festival.

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to the "Neighbors in Need" offering on October 5.

On Saturday, October 18, the "Blessing of the Animals" service was held in the "Meditation Garden" at St. Peter's. There were 12 present (this included two guests from Aaronsburg and two from State College). There were eight animals in attendance with their owners, plus many photos of family pets. Thank you to Pastor Faith for this very special service and thank you also to Bill Miles for delivering the donated pet food and monetary gifts to the S.P.C.A.

Also on Saturday evening, October 18, "Friends with a Mission" sponsored a hayride and Pot Luck Supper at St. Peter's. Thank you so very much to Fred Benner and George Dill for driving the tractors on our ride to Woodward Dave and back to the church. (Gorgeous sunset!) Thanks, guys! Thank you also, to the Craters and the Royer's for providing the wagons. Following the hayride, a Pot Luck Supper was held in the social room. Thank you to everyone for the good food!

On Sunday, October 19, eleven members of Joint Consistory joined Pastor Faith for a retreat at Hartman Center. The group watched "God is Still Watching" video from Penn Central Conference. We made a "tentative" vision statement for the Aaronsburg Charge of the United Church of Christ. We also discussed ways to assist community members or groups in need of help. Our retreat included a break time to be outside and

walk through the labyrinth or visit the chapel if desired. We concluded with a pot luck meal at 5:00 p.m. Thank you to Pastor Faith for planning this special day of learning and fellowship for our consistory.

**November Calendar - St. Peter's
Worship – 9:30
Sunday School - 10:45**

<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Monthly Greeter</u>	<u>Monthly Offering Counters</u>
2	David Edwards		Ed Kerstetter	Ginny Hosterman/Ed Kerstetter
9	Bill Miles	Nicole Wolfe		
16	Lori Corman	Judy & Nan		
23	Dixie Ort	Judy & Nan		
30	Hanging of Greens	Poinsettias		

Consistory Devotions: Brenda Stover

Communion Ushers (October 5): Ed Kerstetter, Lori Corman, Bonnie DeBrasky, Brenda Stover

November Dates to Remember:

- 2 Hymn selection at St. Peter's - 1:30 p.m.
- 4 Autism Support Group 7:00 at St. Peter's
Women's Guild 7:00 at St. Peter's
- 8 Thanksgiving Supper at Spring Mills Fire Hall 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Dedication of Veterans Memorials - Aaronsburg Cemeteries 11:00 a.m. Reception following in St. Peter's social room.
- 16 Family Fellowship Turkey Meal after worship
- 17 St. Peter's Consistory at the church - 7:00 p.m.
- 30 "Hanging of the Greens" service.

Family Fellowship will sponsor a Thanksgiving meal following worship on November 16. Please join us for some good food and fellowship with one another!

-Lori Corman



Women's Guild

The Women's Guild met on Tuesday, October 7, 2008, at St. Peter's at 7:15 p.m. with 8 members present. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$214.80.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Fall Festival made a profit of \$331.30. The balance after next deposit will be around \$747.10. There are still about six calendars to be sold for \$6 each.

Planning for Christmas gift bags for the Skills clients was then done. There are 40 children and each member is to buy 5 activity/fun books, 5 boxes of crayons, 5 coloring books, Janie will get oranges, and Helen bags. These are to be brought to the December 2 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Helen cut 8 turbans that need to be sewn.

We will continue to collect health kits for Church World Service during November. Brenda will check with her sister, Beth about delivering the health kits to save postage.

Faith then conducted Bible Study of Chapter 22, "No Wonder They Call Him the Savior" by Max Lucado.

The next meeting will be November 4, 2008, at 7 pm with Helen Sweeley providing devotions. We will be planning and finalizing for Millheim Outreach Christmas project as well as having Bible Study on Chapter 23.

*Brenda Ream Stover
Secretary*



Worship Times - - - Worship Schedule for 2008

September 2008 - December 2008

St. Peter's: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school following worship
Salem: 10:45 am

Communion, which is open to all who seek to know the Risen Christ, is offered 7 times per year; please contact the Pastor if you would like to receive home communion/visitation. For more information, please call **349-5094** or email aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net



Our Homebound, Nursing Home or Health Care Residents:

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

Roy Hart
Centre Crest Room 243
502 E. Howard St.
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Gladys Hartley
424 Heckman Cemetery Rd
Salem Hill Haven
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

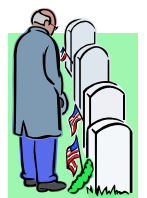
Hazel Warntz
167 Cemetery Road
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

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

(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.)

The Eleventh Day at the Eleventh Hour.....Veteran's Day Remembrance

On November 11th, there will be a Memorial Dedication at 11 a.m. beginning at Salem Lutheran Cemetery and proceeding to Reformed Cemetery. There will be light refreshments following, at St. Peter's UCC in Aaronsburg. All are invited to attend.



M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S

12 Dinner Reservations Have Been Confirmed at...

DUFFY'S TAVERN - Boalsburg

Monday, December 08, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Grandparents Support Group for Children with Autism

Reservation name - RUNKLE (in the formal dining room)

Why Go to Church?

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

'I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.'

This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

'I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this.. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!

'When you are DOWN to nothing.... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

'When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, 'Jesus, could you get that for me?'

Recycle News

Information from Heifer's World Ark Magazine, May/June 08, which you may find useful:

"It's part of the modern dilemma: What do you do with that old cell phone or outdated computer? Instead of throwing them into the trash, send them to www.MyBoneYard.com.

They are a licensed electronics recycler and guarantee to strip and permanently delete all personal information from your recycled product. It couldn't be easier. Just register each product on their site and print a prepaid shipping label—they pay the shipping-for each item, then pack it up and send it off. When they receive your device, they inspect it and will even pay you for the device. The reward amount is added to a Visa debit card and sent to you."



From the Joint Consistory President . . .

On Sunday, November 2, Joint Consistory President, Ken Royer will conduct a short briefing at both church services concerning a problem with the music provided during Salem's services. After hearing and thinking about the presentation, all members will be asked to cast a simple "yes" or "no" paper ballot at their respective church services on Sunday, December 7. The results will help show the required course of action necessary to remedy the situation. Thank you.