

BLESSINGS FROM BETHEL

April, 2009

Greetings to you! And, peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am starting this message with tears in my eyes so it is a bit difficult to type right now. As I always do, I re-read the previous month's message as I prepare to write a new message. So, of course, reading the account of my dad's passing brought tears along with some good memories.

In the process of preparing for this month's message, of course the thoughts turn to Easter and everything connected with that day. We are still in our faith journey through Lent and the contemplation that we encounter as we look to the cross and ponder what that means for us. We have been on an interesting journey with the series by James Harnish entitled: "Why Did Jesus Die on the Cross?" Each Wednesday evening we have looked at a different response to that question. And we will continue that journey through Holy Week.

It is always a very meaningful, faith-full experience as I prepare services for the season of Lent. This year I have been blessed by receiving something through e-mail from a friend in Schuylkill County. She sent me this reading and it really touched my heart as I read it. I will re-type it for you.

The "U" in Jesus

Before U were thought of or time had begun
God stuck U in the name of His Son
And each time U pray, you'll see its' true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.
You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, he was born; that's why He came,
And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified,
Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?
The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
And this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.
When JesUs left earth at His Upward ascension,
He felt there was on thing He just had to mention.
"Go into the world and tell them it's true,
That I love them all – just like I love U."
So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?
It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know, but it all starts with U!

I don't have any identification of the author of this writing, but I praise God and thank Him and whoever penned this! Without saying it point blank, this writer has given us the meaning of Easter. It was all part of God's plan that JesUs would give His life for me and U. H suffered for our sins. For U, may the message of Easter be the center of life! God Bless, and have a blessed Easter!
With love, Pastor Lou Ann.

MONTHLY PASTOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT

MONTH: February, 2009

WORSHIP SERVICES: 2/1 - Rev. Phil Nace, Supply
2/8 - Rev. Phil Nace, Supply
2/15
2/22
2/25 - Ash Wednesday

MEETINGS: Consistory: did not attend
Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 2/10, 2/17, 2/24
Newsletter: 2/24
Adult Choir : 2/10, 2/17, 2/25
Ministry Advisory Committee: no meeting
Good Grief Group: 2/11

VISITS: Home: 18
Home Communion: 1
Hospital: 10
Nursing Home: 1

OTHER: Lay Life Winter Dinner - 2/10

Complete days off: 5 (3 days for bereavement)
Sick Days this month: 0 Total for the year: 0
Vacation Days this month: 5 Total for the year: 11

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Lou Ann Jones

Bethel UCC Consistory Meeting
February 2, 2009

The meeting was called together by Lindsey Brillhart at 7:31 PM with a prayer.

Attendance: D.Bankert, F.Brillhart, L.Brillhart, C.Delozier, R.Ernst, D.Lauchman, B.Martz, E.Miller, K.Weaver,

Guests: Marjorie Trump, Sandy and Ray Mondorff

1. Ray and Sandy Mondorff did a presentation for a church sign to replace the present sign. Listed below is an overview.
 - a. Sign will fit on the existing brick base.
 - b. The sign will be slightly larger than the base which should eliminate water damage to the base.
 - c. Lettering is 4" aluminum which should not warp like the present plastic letters do.
 - d. The casing will not yellow.
 - e. Aluminum frame will have a bronze finish.
 - f. The background for the Bethel UCC lettering will be blue.
2. A motion was made to bring the approval to purchase the sign to the congregation by Ed Miller and seconded by Bob Ernst. Everyone approved the motion and it will be addressed at the 2/15 congregational meeting.
3. Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved with several corrections. Motion to accept the minutes with corrections were made by Bob Ernst, seconded by Fred Brillhart and all approved.
4. Treasurer's Report was given by Brian Martz. Comments concerning the increase in the electric bill were discussed. Ed Miller will look into several possible problems. Fred Brillhart made a motion to accept the report, Connie Delozier seconded the motion and all approved it.
5. Pastoral Report was read by Lindsey Brillhart. A motion to accept the report was made by Dequay Lauchman, Bob Ernst seconded the motion and all approved.
6. Social Report was given by Dave Bankert.
 - a. Approximately 60 attended the after Christmas dinner on January 11th. Many thanks to all who assisted with the dinner. This function could not have been done without the help from all you. A special thanks to Deb, Sue, Mary, Karen, Ruth, Jolene, Lynn and Sally.
 - b. Lay Life and Work covered Dish on Tuesday 2/10 at 6:00 PM
 - c. Bowling night at Greenmount Lanes outside of Hampstead is scheduled on March 14th from 5 to 7 PM. Bowling is \$4.25 per game and shoe rental is free. One game for children under 13 will be paid by the church.
 - d. Everyone's Birthday Party and Talent Show is March 29th (Covered Dish)
 - e. Family Dinner is June 14th
7. Outreach: Marjorie Trump resigned as outreach coordinator effective February 28th. Bethel is very grateful to Marjorie for all she has done with outreach. Thank you Marjorie! We will be looking for someone to serve in Outreach. The Outreach report will be copied at the end.
8. Ministry and Advisory: Next meeting is scheduled for March 2nd at 6:30 PM.
9. Worship: Supply pastor while LuAnn and Jeri are on vacation on 2/1 and 2/8 is Rev. Philip Nace. Lent begins on 2/25 with the Ash Wednesday service.
10. Offering and Attendance report given by Fred Brillhart.
11. Church Care:
 - a. Replaced lights
 - b. Looking at replacing the doors to the shed
 - c. Thanks to Ed Miller for shoveling the walks

12. Education: Lindsey Brillhart received the extra Sunday school books.

13. Old Business:

a. Connie Delozier will reconvene the Fund raising Committee.

b. Audit Committee will meet on 2/3 to review and accept financial reports of the Church.

14. New Business: It was pointed out that Elsie Good is house bound and has not had contact from the church. A follow-up will be made.

15. Adjourned at 9:02 PM with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Bankert

Assistant Secretary

Congregational Meeting
Sunday, February 15, 2009

2008 Consistory President Jolene Ernst called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. The meeting was opened with a prayer from Rev. Lou Ann.

Year End Reports:

Treasurer's Report reviewed by Connie Martz

Sunday School Report was reviewed by Fred Brillhart

Offering and Attendance Report reviewed by Fred Brillhart

Crusaders Class treasurer's Report reviewed by Becky McMaster

Pastor's Report reviewed by Rev. Lou Ann

2009 Consistory and Year in Review by Jolene Ernst

Marjorie Brown-Trump received a token of appreciation for your work with Outreach

The meeting was turned over to 2009 Consistory President Lindsay Brillhart

New Business:

Lindsay outlined some of the 2009 improvement goals:

Youth programs, Bible school, Sunday School programming and fund raisers

Lindsay announced that Marjorie has stepped down as Outreach person and now looking for another member.

Jeri Jones introduced a proposal to replace the exterior church sign at a cost of \$3800.00 with the work conducted by Mundorf Sign Company of York. A motion was made by Gary Simpson and seconded by Lynn McJunkin. Motion carried and work will begin in several weeks.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jim Knaub and seconded by Dave Bankert.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Offering and Attendance Report:

Comparison Summary:

Jan – Feb Attendance Lower by 149 people

Jan - Feb Offering Lower by \$987.25

Average Contribution per Member Higher by \$1.82

Average Weekly Attendance Lower by 19 people

Average Weekly Offering Lower by \$134.66

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 -- MOLLY WEAVER
2 -- BRIAN BANKERT
4 -- DONNA CARROLL
4 -- JULIE DIEHL
6 -- MARJORIE TRUMP
7 -- CONNIE MARTZ
7 -- JERI JONES
8 -- CHARLES GRUBB
9 -- MARION LOUEY
13 -- EDWARD E. MILLER, JR.
14 -- MATTHEW ERNST
18 -- JANET BARNHART
19 -- JIMMY WORLEY
20 -- CHRIS SCHWEITZER
21 -- JOAN STEVENSON
21 -- ZACHARY JACOBY
22 -- ANDREA ZUMBRUM
28 -- BRANDON MARTZ

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

14 -- BURNELL & NADINE TRONE
22 -- JERI & REV. LOU ANN JONES
28 -- ED & JEAN MASENHEIMER, III
28 -- JESS & TAMMY DIEHL

"Happy Birthday to you!"

"Happy Anniversary to you!"



From the Congregation's Life:

BILL DUBS is continuing to do very well following his surgery. He is receiving therapy and is looking forward to receiving an artificial leg. Praise God that Bill has such a strong spirit and a good attitude! God Bless, Bill!

BILL ABBOTT had a Heart Catheterization on March 27th. They did place another stent in his heart. He is doing well and feels stronger already! May the strength of the Spirit be with Bill!

TINA MAIN had surgery to remove Adenoids and tonsils. She is back to work and is doing well. We praise God for Tina's strength! She has begun her new position as manager of the Holiday Hair in Gettysburg. Plus, **MORGAN** and **CONNOR** have both been battling Strept Throat. (Not sure if that is spelled correctly.) We certainly pray that they all get healthy – especially for Easter! **GOD BLESS!**

JOYCE REICHERT was in York Hospital the beginning of the month. She is having problems with infections. We certainly pray that Joyce gets to feeling better! May the strength of the Spirit be with her!

MOLLY WEAVER had Carpal Tunnel surgery. She is one of a growing number of teens with this condition. She is healing well and is able to enjoy celebrating her birthday on April 1! God Bless!

We do ask for you to keep these people in your prayer thoughts too: **MARY ALLISON; all who are coping with colds, flu, coughing, etc.** And, we certainly uplift in prayer those who are going through natural disasters such as flooding, tornadoes, etc.

We certainly apologize if we fail to mention anyone going through any illnesses or other experiences we mention during our prayer concerns at church! We do keep you in our prayers!

LIST OF SHUT-IN AND PRAYER CONCERN MEMBERS

JOYCE REICHERT
Room 215B
Colonial Manor Home
970 Colonial Ave
York, PA 17403

KATHRYN KALTREIDER
1935 Niagara Lane
York, PA. 17404

RUTH STERNER
P.O. Box 330
Hanover, PA 17331

COMING EVENTS:

This year our journey through Lent is a study entitled: **DYING TO LIVE** by James Harnish. This study asks the question: WHY DID JESUS DIE ON THE CROSS? And each week the answer will be the following:

April 1 – “To Reconcile: How God Puts Humpty Dumpty Together Again”

Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 and Colossians 1:15-23

Maundy Thursday – April 9 – “To Set Us Free: Leave Your Chains Behind”

Scriptures: Mark 10:42-45 and Romans 7:14-8:17

Good Friday – April 10 – “To Accomplish Our Salvation: It Is Finished!”

Scripture: John 19:17-30

Each evening service will begin at 7:00 pm. We certainly invite you to join us on the journey through Lent as we prepare our hearts and our lives for the observance of Easter.

And, note that **PALM SUNDAY** is April 5 and that **EASTER SUNDAY** is April 12. Our Easter Sunday activities are: **EASTER DAWN** – 6:30 am; **EASTER BREAKFAST** – 7:15 – 8:45 am; **EASTER WORSHIP with COMMUNION** – 9:00 am; and, **CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM PLUS THE EGG HUNT** at 10:30 am.

We do need donations of: **EGGS, SAUSAGE, BAKED GOODS,** and other items for the Breakfast. See **DAVE** or **DEB BANKERT** for the items needed.

Easter Lily Order Form

Easter Sunday is April 12, 2009. If you would like to order any Lilies, please fill out the form below and return it to Sue Tharp or Pastor Lou Ann. The cost for the 3 to 5 bloom Lilies this year is \$7.00. The deadline for ordering Lilies is March 22. You can still turn in an order if you would like.

NAME _____

Number of Lilies: _____ at \$7.00 each, the total is: _____

DEDICATIONS:

Scout Recognition Sunday!

We will have our Scout Recognition Sunday on **APRIL 19TH**. We will recognize those of our congregation who are in Scouts. So, we need the information of any member active in scouting. Also, we will have members of the troop that meets at Bethel participate in the worship service that morning. So, if you are a past Scout, plan to attend so we can recognize your participation too!

Gettysburg Association Spring Meeting – May 2.

Bethel church has been asked to host the Annual Spring meeting for the Gettysburg Association of the United Church of Christ. The meeting will be held, Saturday, May 2. The gathering will begin with a breakfast at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall. The business meeting will begin at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary.

We need donations of EGGS, SAUSAGE, and ingredients for PANCAKES. So, let us know if you can help us out with any of these items. ALSO, we need people to help in the preparation and the serving of the breakfast. Please, let DAVE BANKERT know if you are able to help in any way.

Daffodil Dedications:

We thank everyone who sponsored Daffodils for American Cancer Sunday! The arrival of these flowers is always an indication of Spring which is the season of new beginnings and hope. These Daffodils are dedicated to the glory of God.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of **RALPH ALLISON**, with love by **MARY ALLISON**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving honor of **FLORENCE HOOVER** by **SUE THARP**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of “**My Mother: JEAN THARP**” by **CONNIE DELOZIER**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of “**My Boys: BO & CHUBBY**” by **CONNIE DELOZIER**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of “**My Husband: STERLING C. TRUMP**” by **MARJORIE M. BROWN TRUMP**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of “**My Sister: PHYLLIS BOLLINGER**” by **MARJORIE M. BROWN TRUMP**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of “**My Sister-in-law: NADINE MILLER BROWN**” by **MARJORIE M. BROWN TRUMP**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving honor of “**My Brother-in-law: CHARLES W. BOLLINGER**” by **MARJORIE M. BROWN TRUMP**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of “**My Father-in-law: HARRY TRUMP**” by **MARJORIE M. BROWN TRUMP**.

1 Bear and a Bunch dedicated in loving honor of **JESSIE'S 21ST BIRTHDAY** (today) by **MOM, DAD and JAMIE NACE**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of “**My Sister: NADINE BROWN**” by **ROSE BECKER**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of **BEN MASENHEIMER** by **JEAN & EDWARD MASENHEIMER, III**.

1 Mini Pot dedicated in loving memory of **JOE ERNST and PHIL TERRY** by **JOLENE ERNST**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of **RHEA T. HAMM** by **ROBERT B. & RUBY THOMAN**.

1 Bunch dedicated in loving memory of **ESTHER MILLER** by **BRIAN, CONNIE, BRITTANY and BRANDON MARTZ**.

2 Bunches are dedicated in loving honor of “**OUR FAMILIES**” by **DAVE & DEB BANKERT**

1` Mini Pot dedicated in loving memory of **STEWART ALBRIGHT** and **LOVED ONES** by **JERI & REV. LOU ANN**.

American Cancer Sunday was on MARCH 22, 2009

April 2009

Bethel United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Mid-week Service - 7:00 pm Adult Choir follows	2	3	4
5 Worship - 9:00 am Palm Sunday Sunday School - 10:30 am	6 Consistory - 7:30 pm	7 Bible Study - 9:00 am	8	9 Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00 pm Adult Choir follows	10 Good Friday Prayer Vigil - 6:00 am - 6:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service - 7:00 pm	11
12 Dinner - 5:30 am Girl Scouts - 6:15 pm Adult Choir - 7:00 pm Bible Study - 7:30 am Worship - 9:00 am Cantatas Children's Program and Elder Meet. - 11:45 am	13 Girl Scouts - 6:15 pm	14 Bible Study - 9:00 am Adult Choir - 7:00 pm	15	16	17	18
19 Worship - 9:00 am Sunday School - 10:30 am	20 Girl Scouts - 6:15 pm	21 Bible Study - 9:00 am Adult Choir - 7:00 pm	22	23	24	25
26 Worship - 9:00 am Sunday School - 10:30 am	27 Girl Scouts - 6:15 pm	28 Bible Study - 9:00 am Adult Choir - 7:00 pm	29	30		