

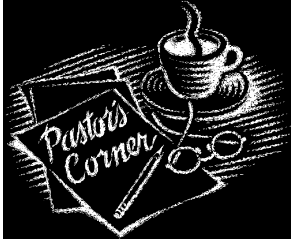


The Good News Letter

St. John's UCC, Fogelsville,

March 2008

PA



From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings in the name of Christ,

A movie that I enjoy watching time and again is "A Beautiful Mind." The film tells the story of John Nash, a world renown mathematician, teacher, and theorist. But Nash was also imprisoned by his battle with Schizophrenia. The movie tells the story of his life. We learn of Nash falling in love with his wife and having a son, but the disease was crippling. He endures shock therapy and medications which attempt to "cure" him. Not only do these attempts fail, but they leave him paralyzed. He loses his delusions, but he also loses his creativity and his mind. Finally, his moment of resurrection comes when Nash learns to live with his disease.

Not only do we witness Nash's transformation, but we watch as his humanity is resurrected. Others who know Nash also recognize his personal genius when he is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in economics. Finally, his life-long work and career is resurrected when he is honored in a "pen" ceremony by his Princeton colleagues.

This is how resurrection happens: it is a journey. At the beginning of the journey, we look at who we are. We recognize our flaws, we can see our gifts. We look to our relationships with others, and we take responsibility for where we are on life's journey. This is what Lent is about. It is a time of reflection to look at ourselves for who we are and stop battling with ourselves. It is a time to recognize our short comings and our gifts, and to

look to God to intervene in our lives in new and dramatic ways.

Then, we make the journey through Holy week. Like Nash, we look to the crosses we must bear in this life. Whether it be disease or addiction or a broken relationship, we acknowledge our pain. Then, we allow ourselves to become vulnerable and open to allow God to work within us and through us. Then, we will find ourselves resurrected into a new person on the other side.

As you continue your journey through Lent, Holy Week, and you find yourself on Easter Morning, open yourself to God's love in a new way. Embrace who you are as a child of God, and allow God to work within you. Then, you too will be made into a beautiful new creation.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Joanne



Church Staff

Joanne Marchetto, Pastor

Office: 610-398-7015 Home: 610-530-9013

Cell: 610-703-5897

e-mail: jomarchetto@rcn.com

Office Hours

Monday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Wednesday 10:a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Drew Nielsen, Minister of Music

Dan Einsla, Sexton

Anna DeAngelis, Parish Coordinator

Church Hospital Code # 467

Office Phone: 610-398-7015

E-mail: stjohnsucc1@enter.net

Office Hours

Monday 10:00am -1:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am -1:00pm

Friday 10:am -2:00pm

Ministry Opportunities

March 30 -

Acolyte

- March 2 - Josh Williamson
- March 9 - Kaitlyn Behney
- March 16 - Zachary Edelman
- March 23 - Justin Getz
- March 30 - Courtney Moyer

Assisting Ministers

- March 2 - Sue Snyder
- March 9 - Marge Cope
- March 16 - Marilyn Roth
- March 23 - Ray Ziegler
- March 30 - Dick Boyer

Flowers

- March 2 - Debra Larison & Holly Klotz
- March 9 - Marilyn Roth
- March 16 - George Rodenbach
- March 23 - Sue Edelman
- March 30 - Jerry Roth

Bulletins

- March 2 -
- March 9 -
- March 16 -
- March 23 -
- March 30 -

Greeters

- March 2 -
- March 9 -
- March 16 - Jeff & Kathleen Lambert
- March 23 -
- March 30 -

Coffee Hour

- March 2 -
- March 9 - John & Tracy Kleinschuster
- March 16 -
- March 23 -

Ushers

- March 2 - Mark & Kay
- March 9 - Marilyn & Warrene
- March 16 - Scott & Larry
- March 23 - Jeff & Marge
- March 30 - Larry & Scott

There are many opportunities available to serve as assisting minister, greeters sponsoring coffee hour, bulletins, or flowers. (To sponsor flowers, the cost is \$30 and \$5 for bulletins). Please consider the stewardship of your time, resources, and talents by serving the congregation in these special ministries. If you would like to serve, please sign-up on the bulletin board in the church foyer. Thank you to all of our faithful servants.

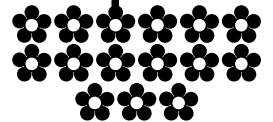


Have an article you would like to submit to the April newsletter? Please place the article in the secretary's folder outside of Pastor Joanne's office or email it to stjohnsucc1@enter.net

The deadline for the April Newsletter is at noon on March 24th.



The next Consistory meeting will be held on March 10th at 7:00 p.m.



Jane Laudenslager,
Isabel Henninger,
Marilyn Brown,
Marilyn Mohr,
Kenneth Reichert,
Pearl Heintzelman,
Christine Dietrich,



Sallie Ebert, Betty Heilman, Dorothea Noll, Arlene Coombe, Betty Wagner, Jake Kupsy, Doris Mohr, Pauline Wagner, Ray Ziegler, Bill Larison, Adele Yost,

Vanessa Stauffer, Bob Kocher, Lisa Neumoyer, Jean Larison, Lorraine Grim, Jean Mohr, Jeff & Kathleen Lambert, Guy DeAngelis.

WORSHIP FOR: March 2008

Week of March 2, 2008 - 4th Sunday in Lent

Scriptures: John 9:1-14

Hymns: #451 Be Now My Vision

#472 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

#252 Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Week of March 9, 2008 - 5th Sunday in Lent

Scriptures: John 11:1-45

Hymns: #417 This Is a Day of New Beginnings

#290 Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

#43 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Week of March 16, 2008 - Palm/Passion Sunday

Scriptures: Palm Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

Passion Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

Hymns: #216 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

#213 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

#226 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

March 20, 2008 - Maundy Thursday Service

Scriptures: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Hymns: #25 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

#223 What Wondrous Love Is This?

#222 My Song Is Love Unknown

March 23, 2008 - Easter Dawn Service

Scriptures: Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18

Hymns: #765 Alleluia

#86 When Morning Gilds the Skies

#236 Halleluja

Week of March 23, 2008 - Easter Sunday

Scriptures: Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18

Hymns: #233 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

#245 The Day of Resurrection

#242 The Strife Is O'er

Week of March 30, 2008 - Second Sunday of Easter

Scriptures: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; John 20:19-31

Hymns: #230 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

#292 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

#253 Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!

For Planning Purposes Only - subject to change as circumstance dictate

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Wednesday Evening Lenten Services

2008 Lenten Schedule:

March 5 St. Paul's Lutheran, Trexlertown;

Rev. Judith Snyder preaching

March 12 Lenten Cantata hosted by

St. John's Lutheran church

For Planning Purposes Only - subject to change as circumstance dictate

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Dutch Lunch

Pastor Joanne invites you to join her for lunch. Meet her at the Starlite Diner on Wednesday afternoons at 12:00 p.m. It will be Dutch Style where everyone will treat him or herself for a lunch out. We will have informal discussions of faith and life, time to share, support, break bread together, and get to know one another.

There will be no Dutch Lunch on March 5th.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ Fast and Feast

Arthur Lichtenberg, when presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, quoted this Lenten advice:

Fast from criticism, feast on praise.

Fast from self-pit, and feast on joy.

Fast from ill temper, and feast on peace.
Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment.
Fast from jealousy, and feast on humility.
Fast from selfishness, and feast on service.
Fast from fear, and feast on faith.

The Source Book of Wit and Wisdom.

The Good Grief Gang

The Good Grief Gang is a one day workshop designed to promote healing and well-being for children ages 6 through 18 who have been affected by loss. It is a grief workshop intending to focus on children who have experienced the death of a family member or children who have experienced loss through divorce. The journey through grief can be frightening and overwhelming for children. Meanwhile, the divorce rate lies somewhere between 40-50%. The children of these families continue to be affected by divorce, where fragmented families and the stress associated with divorce affects children in many ways. The children of our local community have been affected by death and divorce, and as part of our outreach and healing ministries, our hope is to bring healing to children and families in need. The Good Grief Gang is a shared ministry between St. John's United Church of Christ and St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fogelsville and Lutheran Congregational Services.

We will hold a one day workshop on Saturday, April 12th. If you would like more information, please see Pastor Joanne.




Busy Bees

There will be a hoagie sale March 19th. Orders will be due the 9th of March.

We want to thank Beulah & Kenneth Snyder for handling the Easter candy sale. They coordinate the orders & go to Oley to pick them up. Thank you to those of you who supported our sale.

\$1,000.00 was given for the renovation of the

family room.



Confirmation!

Our next overnight lock-in retreat will be held starting at 6:00PM on Thursday, March 20th until noon on Friday, March 21st.

Thank you

To the following ladies of the Busy Bees – Marilyn Roth, Gloria Wolford, Gladys Rupp, Beulah Snyder & Marjorie Cope who prepared & served a turkey pot pie luncheon for the Area Ministerial Meeting in February. Kenneth Snyder was a big help for us as well.

To Nancy Moyer and Angie Getz for chaperoning the Confirmation field trip to Lancaster Seminary and Bethany Children's Home.

To Nancy Moyer for organizing the Joe Corbi Pizza Fundraiser to benefit the Stauffer family.



Notes from the Consistory Meeting

Jeff Grim will be contacting painters about painting the outside of the church. If you are aware of anyone who might be interested in the job, please let him know.

The addition of 2 more handicap parking spaces will be done in spring.

Congregational Meeting will be included in the worship service on February 24th.

Painting of the family room will begin March 1st.

Pastor Joanne & Pastor MaryAnn from St John's Lutheran church are preparing for a grief & loss workshop for children of the area on April 12th.



Community Easter Egg Hunt

On **Saturday, March 22nd** at 10:00 am, we will be participating in the Community Easter Egg Hunt

sponsored by St. John's UCC & Lutheran churches. The egg hunt will be held at **Upper Macungie Park**. In case of snow/rain the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **Saturday, March 29th at 10:00.**

Infants through sixth grade are invited to participate. All who are 7th grade and older are encouraged to volunteer as helpers for the egg hunt.

We are asking for volunteers to donate 20 dozen hard-boiled eggs for the egg hunt.

They may be colored, or uncolored.

There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board.

Please drop them off at the church by Friday morning, March 21st.



VBS Volunteers

Yes, believe it or not, it's that time to start planning for this year's Vacation Bible School. I am asking for volunteers now so the planning process will go smoothly. Hopefully, this will avoid a last minute rush to get supplies and decorations ready and set up.

Any adults or youth who are willing to give of their time to minister to our young children, please see Nancy Moyer or Pastor Joanne.



Jazz Concert

Our last jazz concert of the season will be held on Saturday, March 8th at 8:00 PM.

The concert will feature Jazz Trumpeter Warren Vache and Guitarist Vinnie Carrao.

Tickets are available at the door. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. For more information call 610-737-0530 or send an e-mail to www.rothpiano.com



Snow Report

In the case of inclement weather, the snow is falling inch by inch. You are wondering, will we meet for church today?

Please turn to channel WFMZ or, you can log onto www.wfmz.com. for cancellation information. If snow is predicted for a Sunday morning, we will be contacted by a member of the Consistory to tell you we will not be having church that day.

Please keep in mind that just because church is cancelled doesn't mean that the church's bills are cancelled for that week. **Please consider turning your offering in the following week** so St. John's can continue to provide for all of God's people. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Redner's Receipts

It's easy to participate in the Redner's Save-a-Tape Program. This program is designed to donate 1% of all you spend and donate the money to our church.

To participate, go to any Redner's market, show your card at the check-out, save your receipt, and drop your receipt into the basket. It is that easy.

Please see Jerry Roth if you have any questions about this program.



One Great Hour of Sharing

With your congregation's gift to One Great Hour of Sharing the United Church of Christ offers hope and well-being to people around the world.

Working with international ministry partners and with the domestic UCC disaster and refugee and immigration networks, we use the offering to help people make vital basic improvements in their lives. Nine Christian churches support One Great Hour of Sharing, a life-giving tradition that began in 1949.

By giving to One Great Hour of Sharing, you join with communities struggling to overcome poverty, illiteracy, illness, and the dangers of wars and disasters. Together we follow God's calling—sharing resources, changing lives.

Our Church Website

If you have internet access, please visit our church website: www.stjohnsucc1.org

Jim Marchetto has started up and maintains the site. He is also looking for additional people to assist with this project. If you have pictures, information, articles, or are interested in learning more about developing websites, please see Jim. One of the biggest limitations to a website is the time put into making it look great and adding content, so the more folks willing to help, the more St. John's will have to share with the world. This is also a great way to get our youth (and hopefully new youth) involved in the church.

- 11 –Ernest Breininger
- 13 – Katie Kleinschuster
- 16 – Kris Krause
- 17 – Bill & Jean Larison
- 18 – Megan Gracely
- 18 –Brailynn Mikolajczyk
- 19 – Jessica Mohr
- 19 – Joshua Williamson
- 22 – Kevin Carl
- 23 – Zachary Edelman
- 25 – Andrew Laudenslager
- 27 – Perma Eisenhard
- 27 – Anna Rose Marchetto
- 28 – Isabel & Warren Henninger
- 30 – Tracey Kleinschuster

Jury Duty Scam

We have become aware of this scam and it was confirmed by the FBI.

This is how it works: The caller claims to be a jury coordinator. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the person asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Give out this information and your identity was just stolen.

The fraud has been reported so far in 11 states. They try over the phone to bully people into giving information by pretending they are with the court system. The FBI and Federal Court System have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites, warning consumers about the fraud.



March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 – Kenneth Snyder
- 6 – Henry Rockel
- 9 – Marilyn Roth
- 10 – William Roth
- 10 –Sue Edelman

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Lately, there has been a string of break-ins into vehicles in Upper Macungie Township and Lower Macungie Township. In Upper Macungie, the break-ins have been happening to cars located in hotel and park parking lots. In Lower Macungie, they have been also targeting churches. The thieves have been taking items such as GPS units and ladies purses. If the item is in sight, they will smash a car window and grab the item. These “smash and grab” robberies have been taking place when these valuable items have been left in plain view. Please remember to keep these items out of sight and keep your cars locked at all time.



Your day goes the way the corners of your mouth turn. Life is like a mirror. If we frown at it, it frowns back. If we smile, it returns the greeting. Laughter helps us to love one another. When we laugh together, we feel closer to one another. There are many reasons to laugh, so go ahead. Quarter Century members, we know our lives are full of tensions, stress and grim realities. That's why laughter is the cheapest luxury; we have. It clears the blood, expands the chest, electrifies the nerves, clears away the cobwebs from the brain, and gives the whole system a good cleansing. There are two days in every week about which we should not

worry, two days which should be kept free from fear and apprehension. One of the two days is YESTERDAY, with its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control. All the money in the world cannot bring back yesterday. We cannot undo a single act we performed. We cannot erase a single word we said. Yesterday is gone. The other day we should not worry about is TOMORROW, with its burdens, its large promise and poor performance. Tomorrow is also beyond our immediate control. Tomorrow's sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds, but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in tomorrow. For it is yet unborn. This leaves only one day. TODAY anyone can fight the battles of just one day. It is only when we add the burden of those to awful eternities yesterday and tomorrow that we break down. It is not the experience of today that drives us mad, it is the bitterness for something which happened yesterday and the dread of what tomorrow may bring. Let us therefore, live but one day at a time and smile and laugh as often as we can.

Bill & Lorraine Grim