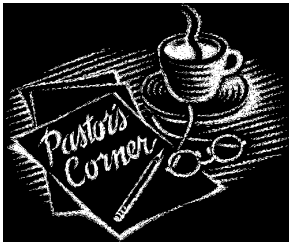




The Good News Letter

St. John's UCC,
Fogelsville, PA

May 2008



From the Pastor's Desk

Spring has Sprung! As we continue through the Easter season, we can see the signs of new life all around us. The weather is getting warmer, the flowers are beginning to bloom, the farmers are out working the soil, and in the landscape where all seemed barren and lost, we can see the signs of new life. We witness resurrection in springtime. God's world is amazing evidence of resurrection. But, can we witness the power of resurrection in our lives?

Richard Beck can help us here. He is Associate Professor of Psychology at Abilene Christian University, and he keeps a blog of his life, faith and experiences online at <http://experimentaltheology.blogspot.com> He also has a lot of experience playing the part of Jesus in passion plays, and he discusses what it is like to play the part of Jesus. For those of us wanting to embody the resurrection message and become more like Jesus, here is his advice: "The key to playing Jesus isn't to be different. The key is this: Be yourself.

"The point is this. You are never closer to being Christ-like than when you are at your best. Think of yourself when you are feeling compassionate or generous or merciful and ACT LIKE THAT. Being the *Imago Christi* isn't hard. It's just being you.

"I once told a[n] adult Sunday school class the following: When you are at your best, not even Jesus could do it better. They looked startled. Why? Because we tend to think Jesus is bringing to the human encounter some special Jesus-ingredient that we, mere mortals, don't have. But most of the things we are called to do are mundane and straightforward. Do them, do

them well, and not even Jesus could perform them better. You don't need to be the Incarnate God to give a thirsty person a cup of cold water. Just give him a cup of cold water. It's not magical. If someone needs a kind word, then speak a kind word. It's not rocket science. If someone needs forgiveness, then say 'I forgive you.' It's not superhuman."

Sometimes we forget that it is simple to witness to the resurrection in our everyday lives. When we are acting ourselves, being our best selves, offering a healing touch, a comforting word, serving at the soup kitchen, sharing a word of peace and justice, and loving our enemies, we are witnessing to the resurrection. We become living proof of the resurrection as we are living into the calling of who God has created us to be: a healing and reconciling people in this broken world.

May our lives and our words always witness to the unending grace of God and the power of the resurrection!

Peace be with you,
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

Ministry Opportunities

Friday 10:am -2:00pm

Acolyte

- May 4 - Tyler Krause
- May 11 - Ralla Roth
- May 18 - William Roth
- May 25 - Bryan Sobczak

Assisting Ministers

- May 4 - Sue Snyder
- May 11 - Janet Grim
- May 18 - Marilyn Roth
- May 25 - Marge Cope

Flowers

- May 4 - Cindy Eckert
- May 11 - Marjorie DeRoner & family
- May 18 - Jeff and Kathleen Lambert
- May 25 - Grace Wotring

Bulletins

- May 4 - Peter & Jeanette Paduch
- May 11 -
- May 18 -
- May 25 - Michael & Donna Mikolajczyk

Greeters

- May 4 -
- May 11 -
- May 18 -
- May 25 - Michael & Donna Mikolajczyk

Coffee Hour

- May 4 - Donna Breining and Sue Edelman
- May 11 - Tracy Kleinschuster
- May 18 - The Mohr family
- May 25 - Michael & Donna Mikolajczyk

Ushers

- May 4 - Scott & Larry
- May 11 - Kay & Mark
- May 18 - Jeff & Marge
- May 25 - Warrene & Marilyn

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 June 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 June Newsletter is at noon on May 19th.



The next Consistory meeting will be held on May 12th at 7:00 p.m.



Vanessa Stauffer, Adele & Frank Yost, Pauline Wagner, Ray Ziegler, Isabel Henninger, Marilyn Mohr, Jane Laudenslager, Marilyn Brown, Kenneth Reichert, Pearl Heintzelman, Christine Dietrich, Dorothea Noll, Sallie Ebert, Betty Heilman, Arlene Coombe, Betty Wagner, Doris Mohr,

Bob Kocher, Lisa Neumoyer, Bill & Jean Larison, Leona Kocher, Bill & Lorraine Grim, Jean Mohr, Deb Larison, Marilyn Roth.

WORSHIP FOR: May, 2008

Week of May 4, 2008 - Ascension

Sunday/Communion

Scriptures: Acts 1:1-11; Luke 24:44-53

Hymns: #44 Beautiful Jesus

#433 In the Bulb, There Is a Flower

#257 Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!

Week of May 11, 2008 - Pentecost Sunday

Scriptures: Acts 2:1-21; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13;
John 7:37-39

Hymns: #272 On Pentecost They Gathered

#283 Spirit of the Living God (2 times)

#312 We Love Your Realm, O God

Week of May 18, 2008 - Trinity Sunday

Scriptures: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13;
Matthew 28:16-20

Hymns: #275 Come Now, Almighty God

#276 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

#277 Holy, Holy, Holy

Week of May 25, 2008 - Second Sunday after
Pentecost

Scriptures: Isaiah 49:8-16a; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5;
Matthew 6:24-34

Preacher: Bill Grim

Hymns: # 46 Hope of the World

488 Be Still My Soul

4 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*For Planning Purposes Only - subject to change
as circumstance dictate.*



VACATION

Pastor Joanne will be on vacation from
May 18th-May 25th. She will return back to
the office on Wednesday, May 27th. If you
have a pastoral emergency, please call
Pastor Martha Boyer at 610-295-7850.
Thank you.

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 Wednesday, May 21st.**



May

Anniversaries and Birthdays

2 – Zachary Benicoff

2 – Sandra Yost

2 – Mark & Angie Getz

4 – Sue & Lou Edelman

5 – Art Lyons

8 – Larry Moyer

9 – Jared Campbell

12 – Donna Breininger

14 – Adam Mikolajczyk

15 – Ruth Guldin

16 – Joanne Marchetto

17 – Peyton Geary

18 – Carl Williamson

21 – Jennifer Hucko

22 – Lorraine Moyer

22 – Sherry Roth

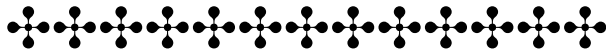
24 – Kathy & Obai Hurdle

25 – Ralla Roth

27 – Lisa Kriebel

30 – Betty & Homer Heilman

30 – Gerald Roth



Country Sale

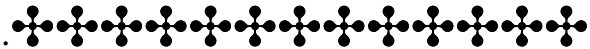
Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, will be holding
their annual **Country Sale** on Saturday, May 3rd from 9-2.
There will be flowers, garden plants, food, baked goods,
quilt raffle, yard sale, music, and some fun activities
throughout the day. Come out and join the fun.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, said prayers, and expressed concern at our time of my father's illness and passing.

Nancy Moyer and Family

Thank you to all of the volunteers who make the newsletter possible.



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.



Strengthen the Church

On Sunday, May 11 – Pentecost and Mothers Day! – we will be receiving the Strengthen the Church special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. This offering builds the UCC' future. It funds new congregations and renews existing ones. It supports programs for youth and young adults and nurtures current and future leaders. And this year, for the first time, it will aid the God is Still Speaking Ministry and its message inclusively.

Directed to local Conferences, Local Church Ministries, and the Still speaking Ministry, Strengthen the Church gifts help to create vibrant church communities of extravagant welcome.

VBS Volunteers

This year's VBS is scheduled for July 14th to 18th from 9am to 12 noon. The theme for this year is Rainforest Adventure: A Tree Top Bible Blast! *Every tree in the forest will sing joyful songs to the Lord. 1 Chronicles 16:33.*

Each day will be packed with activities designed to help children experience the importance of Stewardship. They will learn that it is fun and faithful to share the good news of Jesus' love with everyone.

Registration forms will be handed out in May. Please return as quickly as possible for planning purposes. We will be handing out music CD's again so you can learn the songs before VBS.

We are looking for adult and youth volunteers. We need activity site leaders and helpers, as well as group leaders. Anyone interested, please see Nancy Moyer or call her at 610-395-9214,

Explore the Canopy!



Summer Worship

Beginning in June, our worship schedule will change. Worship will begin at 9:30 a.m. during the months of June, July, and August. Please make a note that this change will begin on Sunday, June 1, 2008.



ASSISTANT MINISTERS

Are you looking to share in your spiritual gifts with the church in a new way? Consider becoming an assisting minister. Pastor Joanne is scheduling the assisting ministers for the months of July through December. Please contact the church office or Pastor Joanne with any questions. Thank you.

Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday, May 26th, 2008

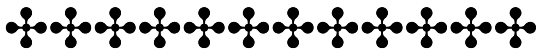
10:00-10:30 AM

Fogelsville Cemetery, Church Street

This ceremony will honor all those who have served our country and gave the ultimate sacrifice defending freedom and liberty throughout the world.

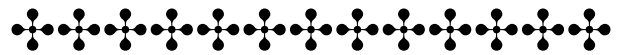
Please join our community in this day of remembrance. Parking will be available at St. John's U.C.C next to the Cemetery. Colors and wreath will be presented by the Breinigsville V.F.W. and assisting will be members of Cub Scout Pack 72 and Boy Scout Troop 72.

Please contact Dave Roth (610)737-0530 for more information.



CHURCH PICNIC

This summer, **St. John's will not be having a church festival. In its place, we will be having a church picnic.** This will be a wonderful time for us to get together and have a great time. Our church picnic will be on Sunday, June 22nd. Weather permitting, we will have an outdoor worship service followed by a pot luck luncheon. We may even organize some games to play at the park. For the picnic, we will provide the hot dogs and hamburgers. We are asking folks to bring a side dish or dessert. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board if you will be attending with what you will be bringing. You do not need to sign up to attend. Please dress casually and comfortably for the worship and picnic. We hope to see you there!



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



KidsPeace is holding its 11th Annual Soccer Tournament on August 23-24. This tournament is a major fund raiser for KidsPeace's Children's Fund. The tournament is open to Recreation Soccer Teams throughout the East Coast and is limited to the first 100 teams that sign-up. In the past, we have had teams from as far away as Connecticut participate in the event.

This year more than ever, we are in need of volunteers to perform such tasks as: parking attendants, field marshals, food services, merchandising (selling t-shirts, hats, etc.), and other positions to make the tournament another success.

If any students require documented volunteer hours, this event would most likely qualify due to our status as a 503(c) children's charity. Any time that can be donated is greatly appreciated by KidsPeace. (We prefer the minimum shift to be 3 hours, but we will try to accommodate everyone who is interested in helping us out.) Volunteers will get tickets for free food at the event and many positions include a free t-shirt.

The Special Events coordinator is Jenelle Perich and she can be contacted at: 610-799-8493 or by e-mail at: Jenelle.Perich@kidspeace.org

More information will be made available (soon) on www.kidspeace.org.

Recipe Corner

E-Z Cheese Danish

- 2 8-oz pkgs Cream Cheese (can be low fat)
- 2 Crescent Rolls (in dairy case)
- 1 egg
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 Tablespoon Vanilla

Butter 9x13 pan. Pat 1 Crescent roll into pan (fits nicely) and seal all seams. Mix cheese, egg, and sugar together. Spread over dough. At this point, if desired, spread the can of pie filling over the cheese layer. Place the 2nd crescent roll on top. It does not need to be sealed tightly. Sprinkle with egg white and cinnamon sugar. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes. Note: If you desire, cut the cream cheese mixture in half.



Bus Trip: St. John's U.C.C., Emmaus is sponsoring a mission trip on September 12, 2008 to the New Windsor Conference Center in New Windsor, MD. There will be an opportunity to work for SERRV International packing/unpacking/pricing or helping to sort Church World Service kits. Bus Fare: \$26.50, Lunch \$3.50. If you wish, sign up for an afternoon tour. Shop at the SERRV International Gift Shop. Bus leaves New Windsor at 3:00p.m. with a dinner stop along the way. Bus arrives in Emmaus 7:30-8:00p.m. August 1, 2008 deadline for sign-up and payment. For further details contact Linda Roosa – 610-966-1459 or leroosa@ptd.net



Confirmation Class

We will begin a new Confirmation class in the fall. If you know someone who is beginning grade 6 or older in the fall, then they can join our Confirmation class. The Confirmation program involves attending two day retreats, attending two lock-in retreats, and field trips. It also requires participating in church as an acolyte and church attendance. If you would like to join the Confirmation class, please see Pastor Joanne for more information.

We will have an organizational meeting in September. More information will follow!

Church World Service

Emergency Clean-up Buckets

After an active early winter (Southern tornadoes, mid west floods) we have only 48 CWS Emergency Clean-up Buckets on hand at our New Windsor warehouse. What makes this more dire is timing: after record snowfalls across the upper Midwest and northeast, March thawing will likely cause flooding soon.

We ask you spread the word of this need throughout your denominational acontacts More information may be found online at

<http://www.churchworldservices.org/kits/cleanup-kits.html>.

To assemble an Emergency Clean-up Bucket you will need:

- One 5 gallon bucket with resealable lid
- Five scouring pads
- Seven sponges (assorted sizes)
- One scrub brush
- Eighteen cleaning towels reusable
- One 50-78 oz. Box dry laundry detergent
- One 12 oz. Bottled liquid concentrated household cleaner
- One 25 oz. Bottle liquid disinfectant dish soap
- Fifty clothes pins
- Close line (2 - 50 ft. or 1 - 100 ft.)
- Five dust masks
- Two pairs latex gloves
- One pair work gloves
- Twenty-four bag roll of heavy duty trash bags (33-45 gallon)
- One 6-14 oz. Bottle of insect repellent (drops or lotion, not aerosol)

Please purchase all liquids in plastic bottles. Be sure to send only new, unopened materials. Put all items in the plastic bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment, and seal lid with packing tape. Place each Bucket in a separate box.

Clean-up Bucket value : \$50. Processing/Shipping Cost: \$3 per bucket.

Phoebe Home

Trina Brady, a representative from Phoebe Services will be visiting our church on May 11th. This is part of Phoebe's traditional Outreach Program. She will be joining us for worship to share a word of welcome and mission about our connection with Phoebe Ministries. We will also receive our special mission offering for Phoebe Home.



Busy Bees

Busy Bees thank all who helped with the April hoagie sale. The next one will be on May 21st with the orders due on the 11th. Please call Marge Cope at 610 395-0002 with any orders that are not handed in at church. The orders will be available for pick up at 10am on the 21st after all the orders have been filled in order to avoid any mistakes. Thank you for your cooperation in this new pick up time.



The music department of Brandywine High School invites all senior to attend their annual **Spring Concert** on Friday, May 16th at 2:30 p.m. This special event for seniors is free and will feature the Senior High Band, Concert Choir, and soloists.

Following the performance, there will be refreshments in the cafeteria. Come out and enjoy an afternoon of great music.



Kalyn Rupert, a student at East Stroudsburg University, is currently working to obtain her masters degree in Speech-Language Pathology. The program requires a summer course Diagnostics, which allows graduate students to gain experience in the form of speech, language, and hearing screening and evaluations. On the following dates and times the clinic would provide the service free of charge and you would receive the results immediately. The only thing you do is provide the transportation.

Tuesday, May 20, 2008 from 9-12 and 1-5

Wednesday, May 28, 2008 from 9-12 and 1-5

Thursday, May 29, 2008 from 9-12 and 1-5

Tuesday, June 3, 2008 from 9-12 and 1-5

Thursday, June 5, 2008 from 9-12 and 1-5

Times can be scheduled to meet your specific needs, during the allotted time slots. You do not have to suspect your child has a problem. The child's age can range from infant (hearing screening only) to 10 years old.

For further information contact Kalyn at 610-392-4326.



A wonderful thought

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said, 'Lord, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like.'

The Lord led the holy man to two doors.

He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in. In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table was a large pot of stew, which smelled delicious and made the holy man's mouth water.

The people sitting around the table were thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding spoons with very long handles that were strapped to their arms and each found it possible to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful. But because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths.

The holy man shuddered at the sight of their misery and suffering.

The Lord said, 'You have seen Hell.'

They went to the next room and opened the door. It was exactly the same as the first one. There was the large round table with the large pot of stew which made the holy man's mouth water. The people were equipped with the same long-handled spoons, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking. The holy man said, 'I don't understand.' It is simple,' said the Lord. 'It requires but one skill. ; You see they have learned to feed each other, while the greedy think only of themselves.'

When Jesus died on the cross, he was thinking of you.