

Community
CONNECTION

Community Church
A United Methodist Congregation
3487 Route 130, Irwin, PA 15642

Non Profit Organization

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COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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Community Church

A United Methodist Congregation

Pastor: Rev. John E. Ciampa - jciampa@communityumc.info

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rich Phipps - rphipps@communityumc.info

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Director of Youth Ministries: Frank Audia - faudia@communityumc.info

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Director of Christian Education: Patsy Ciampa - deaconpatsy@yahoo.com

Director of Connectional Ministries: Elizabeth Somes - esomes@communityumc.info

Director of Food Ministries: Kendra Simpson - kendrascookin@yahoo.com

Discipleship: John Toellner

Evangelism:

Fellowship: Pam French

Ministry: Jamie Greenier

Worship: Liz Wade

Communications: Katie Morgan

Church Secretaries: Carole Helsel - chelsel@communityumc.info

Wendy Johnson - wjohnson@communityumc.info

Phone: (724) 744-3413 FAX: (724) 744-4758

E-mail Address: info@communityumc.info

Church Web Page Address: www.ShareChristWithOthers.org

Worship Services

- Saturday Evenings – 6:00 p.m.- Current Contemporary Worship
- Sunday Mornings – 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship
- Sunday Morning - 10:45 a.m. - Current Contemporary Worship
- Sunday School – 9:45 a.m.



Community Connection is published monthly for members and friends of Community United Methodist Church. Deadline for submission of articles is the 10th of every month unless otherwise noted.

Articles can be delivered to Pastor John or to the church office.

STAYING FOCUSED...

The Blue Willow

“She took ham to the Seder...” Laughter roared around the table as Jennifer tried to explain *again* that she had never been to that sort of Jewish celebration before. Why wouldn't she take ham? For the next two hours this famous southern restaurant in the small town of Social Circle, GA became the stage of our lives. The menu had things like fried green tomatoes, sweet tea, and peanut butter pie. But what stole the show was looking across the table and seeing our best friends in the world; Dan and Jennifer, Steve and Kimm. Sentences beginning with, “Do you remember when...” opened up cherished seasons of our lives. Like waves on the beach, a continuous current of memories broke into our conversation, making us thank God for surrounding us with these dear friends.

Our lives are a patchwork of shared experiences. Memories thread through your past. Some are pleasant, others painful, but together they tell the story of your life. It's with this rich assortment of connections that God ties your life with others and helps form you into who you are. But these friendships and relationships aren't just about where you've been or what you've done. They become a launch pad for where you are going. Isn't it with hope that you think about new memories to be made? Isn't it with excitement that you anticipate the new things God is going to do in and through your shared lives together?

That's exactly how our family feels about you. One year ago God called us to serve Community United Methodist Church. What a glorious year it's been! You've cared for us as one of your pastoral families. And already we are looking back and roaring with laughter at some of the memories we share. Already we are standing stupefied as we watch God work miracles in and through our lives. And already we are watching with expectant excitement about what God is going to do next!

Continued on page 2

Staying Focused continued from page 1

Much like we did with our friends in Georgia, we want to take this opportunity to thank you, church family, for being our family. For all that you have come to mean to us in such a short time. And can we challenge you to keep loving us, even as we love you, and let's race into God's perfect plan together. Let's make room for the Holy Spirit to do miraculous works. There may be moments when we walk into the Seder meal carrying a ham, but by God's grace we'll make it through. Together we'll share seasons of life. And together we'll participate in God bringing His Kingdom on earth even as it is in Heaven. Thanks to Kendra's cooking there'll be plenty of tables to sit around and share life together. And who knows, maybe we'll see fried green tomatoes and peanut butter pie on the menu!

Be blessed knowing that we have a God who goes before us! Let's give ALL for His glory.

Pastor Rich

A decorative border of various leaves and vines, including maple and oak leaves, framing the text on the left and bottom of the page.

Fall into Connection ...

This fall we will have many small group opportunities. Small groups are open to anyone members or not of CUMC. Small groups last anywhere from 6 weeks - 34 weeks and give people an opportunity to get to know other people in the church, care for one another and learn about God. Some groups to expect this fall semester are below. If you have any questions about groups please, contact Elizabeth Somes at esomes@communityumc.info.

- DivorceCare – for those who are dealing with divorce
- Financial Peace University – manage your money the way God desires
- Exercise and Fitness – devotions, instruction and weekly exercise
- Bible Basics – Walk through the fundamentals to get you started in study
- Experiencing God – a classic by Henry Blackaby learn to know and discern God's presence
- Disciple Bible Study – an in-depth study series of the Bible

AUGUST CALENDAR

Sundays	8:30 p.m.	AA's Open meeting
Wednesdays	4:30 p.m.	F.E.A.S.T.
	6:30 p.m.	ALPHA
Thursdays	9:00 a.m.	Busy Hands Sewing Group
	11:00 a.m.	Stroke Support Group
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Worship (grades 7-12)
Saturdays	6:00 p.m.	Current Worship Service
Sundays	8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service
	10:45 a.m.	Current Worship Service
	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service

Tuesday	August 2	12:00 p.m.	Super Seniors lunch and meeting
Wednesday	August 3	7:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministers
Saturday	August 6	3:00 p.m.	Car Cruise
Monday	August 8	4:00 p.m.	Noah's Kids registration
Wednesday	August 10	7:00 p.m.	Taizé Prayer service
		7:00 p.m.	Trustees
Wednesday	August 17	4:00 p.m.	Children's Ministry meeting
		7:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministers
Thursday	August 18	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir rehearsals begin
Monday	August 22	7:00 p.m.	Ark Orientation
Tuesday	August 23	7:00 p.m.	Summer Reading Club
Wednesday	August 24	7:00 p.m.	Church Council



Altar flowers are available on the following dates: October 2, 9, 23 & 30, November 27 and December 11 & 18. If you would like to reserve one of these dates in honor, in memory or in celebration of someone, please call the church office at 724-744-3413

AUGUST SCHEDULE

KIDS 4 CHRIST SATURDAY

August 6	Sunny Nickle & Sue Keller
August 13	Lynne Miller & Danielle Walton
August 20	Brooke Jackowski & Michelle Devlin
August 27	Patsy Ciampa & Melissa Conte

ACOLYTES - Contact Vicki Monaco - 724-744-0283

Aug. 7	8:30	Luke Fabac & Daniel Coughenour	11:00	Alyssa Higgins & Kacy Williams
Aug. 14	8:30	Adam Power & Michael Yakubisin	11:00	Sydney Fleming & Zachary Tusay
Aug. 21	8:30	Zoe Moser & Justin Moser	11:00	Sydney Smith & Jared Wright
Aug. 28	8:30	Stephanie Hilderhoff & Shana Ciongoli	11:00	Trent Somes & Vivian Somes

SUNDAY GREETERS - Contact Sandy Wessel - 724-744-3754

August 7	8:30	Mary and Bob Nichols & Jane Logesky
	11:00	Elaine and Carl Shirey & Carl Henry
August 14	8:30	Judy and Jerry Nedley & Deb and Sarah MacAllister
	11:00	Cheri and Robert O'Neal & Madeline Rainey and James Veitch
August 21	8:30	Karen and Chris Colley & Vera Shale
	11:00	Jill and Glenn Huffman & Nancy and Andrew Husak
August 28	8:30	Fran Atherton and Joe Dube & Sunny and Rich Nickle
	11:00	Judy and Jay Newport & Kathy Thurston

LITURGISTS - Contact Judy Newport - 724-744-4995

August 7	8:30	Joyce Wright
	11:00	Jamie Caruso
August 14	8:30	Larry Brammell
	11:00	Sandy Wessel
August 21	8:30	Donna Auckerman
	11:00	Tracey Sepe
August 28	8:30	Chris Watson
	11:00	Open



Joyce Casper
5156 Saltsburg Road
Murrysville, PA 15668

Nick & Sarah Kral
2389 Wheatland Circle
Delmont, PA 15626

Harry & Elaine Stevick
434 Richmond Drive
Jeannette, PA 15644

Christopher Brammell
7102 N. Sheridan Road
Apt. J1
Chicago, IL 60626

Anthony Braun
2359 Railroad Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Barbara DeFloria
8679 Route 949
Sigel, Pa 15860

Robert & Mary Nichols
709 Arlington Avenue
Jeannette, PA 15644

John & Mary Fassett
111 Juniper Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Phone Number Changes

Carolyn Bezak - 724-392-4348
Dennis Nieves - 724-516-2989

Remove

Nancy Beck - transferred



Wednesday Feast Menu

August 3

Soup, Salad and Fruit Bar

August 10

Hot Turkey Sandwich with French Fries and Gravy

August 17

Pasta

August 24

Chop Suey with Rice

August 31

Ham Barbecue Sandwich with Cheesy Potatoes



“Created By God”

A Study in Human Sexuality for Fifth Sixth and Seventh Graders
and their Parents

KAIROS OUTSIDE OF WESTERN PA (KOWPA) #1 A BLESSING FOR ALL

Kairos Outside is a ministry for women (age 20 and over) who have or have had a loved one incarcerated in a juvenile system, city jail or state prison system. On June 24-26 we had the very first weekend for women in the state of PA. We spent over one year planning for this event. The developer of this program for women, Jo Chapman, told us initially to plan around 30 confirmed guests at first with a 50% by the day of the event.

Blessings were abound for us right from the start- we had 42 confirmed guests and 33 women actually attended the weekend. That was our first indication that we were all truly going to be blessed by the holy spirit. I am sure it took a lot for those women to actually show up, many of them confessed they considered not coming, but SOMETHING was pushing them to go. The weekend is meant to provide these women a safe place to hear the stories of others who are experiencing the same thing they are going through. Confidentiality is mandatory for these women. The weekend is based around a series of talks such as ANGER, FORGIVENESS, HOME ENVIRONMENT, etc. After each talk there is open discussion at each table on the topics. It helps them to realize that there are others who are angry or feel that their loved one is in prison because of them or that they also worry how life may be if/when their loved one is released. Along with these discussions we have meditations and lots of fun events for the ladies to just let their guard down and "have a good time".

We close out the weekend with a time when the women can talk to the community to tell them what the weekend has done for them. Two women really stood out to me during the weekend. There was a lady who did not like to be hugged in any way. We later found out it was due to the fact that when her son was taken to prison people would hug her and whisper in her ear "Your son is going straight to hell". By the end of the weekend, we all formed a line and she gave a hug to everyone. At the open mike she told the community that for seven years she has not been able to say her son's name. Without hesitation she screamed her son's name out loud and said, "He is still loved and so am I." Another lady came to the weekend on Friday as one person but left on Sunday as though the Holy Spirit had given her a new soul. She came to the microphone and said..."This weekend made me realize that my son made a bad choice and now has to pay the consequence for that choice, but that I was and am a GOOD Mother who is not responsible for what he did but loves him unconditionally.

Continued on page 7

We invite families to register by October 24th to attend the study "Created by God." This course begins, for parents and small group leaders, on Thursday November 11th. Our resource leader is Rev. Dr. James Ritchie, Jr., pastor at Center UMC. He has devoted his ministry in recent years to leading this program for our children in as many churches as possible across the nation. We are honored to welcome Jim as our leader. He has a heart for this age-level, and understands that these preteens are still eager to know what their parents believe about important issues like human sexuality. Community UMC offers this course, with its Christian theology and perspective on faithful, healthy lives, to families who have sons and daughters of 5th-7th grades.

Each session builds on the previous session, therefore, full attendance is required. Student session #1 begins on Friday evening November 11th, from 7-9. Student Sessions 2-3 begin at 9 a.m. Saturday November 12th, includes lunch and snacks, and will continue until 3 p.m. Student session #4 begins Sunday November 13th at 2 pm, with a dinner at 5p.m. with parents. The concluding session with parents is from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Families which need child care for younger children during the "Parent sessions" on Thursday and Sunday should please complete this form.

A registration fee of \$25.00 per child or \$40 per family if there is more than one child attending, will help defray the cost of resources, food, and supplies. We are asking for a commitment of your time and resources, so that your son or daughter will have the knowledge and courage to live faithful and healthy Christian lives. Further questions are welcomed. Please phone or contact Patsy Ciampa at 724-744-2289 or Mike Fabac at 724-744-1897 of church office 724-744-3413, Ext. 214.

Yes! We plan to participate in *Created by God!*

FAMILY NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

STUDENT'S NAME _____ AGE _____ GRADE _____ M__ F__

PARENT(S) ATTENDING PARENT SESSION _____

PARENT(S) ATTENDING STUDENT/PARENT SESSION _____

I will need childcare during the parent sessions (Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon)

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Please return form to the church no later than October 24, 2010.



A Note of Thanks

Dear Church Family - It has been 1 year since we lost our love, our life, Carson. We wanted to extend our eternal thanks for all the support, love and prayers we have felt from you all over the past few years since Carson's diagnosis in the fall of 2008. Thank you for lifting us up when we were at our lowest. The pain is nowhere near over for us, but with the support and love we have felt thus far, it's nice to know we have all of you to help us through.

With Love, Peace and Hope, Jim and Carlie Rudick

Carson's Carnival Volunteer Thank You: We would like to thank our carnival volunteers, sponsors and attendees. Your thoughts, prayers and support were felt throughout the planning and execution of the event. Without you all, the day would not have been possible. A special thanks to our Pastors, John and Rich, for their support and to Kendra for yet another delicious meal. There are too many names to list, but know that each of you played a special role and we appreciate your hard work. It was a fantastic day to honor Carson and we were proud to be a part of it. Members of Carson's Crowd made it to the event and had a great time! Along with these children, many others who have this disease will be touched by your kindness and generosity in the days and months to come. We are so grateful and honored to call you our family and friends.

Melissa Hall and Jamie Grace

A Big Thank You to everyone who helped at the first annual (hopefully!) Spring Clean up Day on June 11. The 20 or so volunteers spread 34 cubic yards of mulch at the church and parsonages, weeded the playground, and weeded and pruned the landscaped beds around the church. And all this was accomplished within four hours! Next year we plan to hold the event in May. We hope to see you there! If you'd like to get involved in planning other landscaping and gardening projects around the church, please contact Deb MacAllister at 724-744-2811 or dmacallister@windstream.net.

Thanks from the bottom of my heart for all your prayers, cards, visits and concerns after my accident. I feel so blessed to belong to a congregation of such loving and caring people.

Jerri Jacobs

Thank you! I would like to thank my church family for their prayers, cards and concerns during my recent surgery. Special thanks to Pastor Jim, Pastor John and Shirley Nixon for their visits.

Ken Lorenz

Kairos Outside continued from page 6

This is a very brief idea of the weekend. It was a lot of work. We had a lot of fun. And we received more blessings from these ladies than they will ever know. We are currently planning their reunion picnic in July and KOWPA #2. Please prayerfully consider working on team, provide a ride for these ladies, make agape, save books for the ladies or donate a few hours as a Day Angel.

I, along with our entire team and guests want to thank all of you who donated financially, drove guests, worked on team, came to the Walk in Love ceremony, came to closing, provided a delicious meal.

The Holy Spirit let us know beyond any doubt that this ministry is needed here in Pittsburgh to help these women who often "do harder time" than their loved ones.

I will be letting you know as more details about our second weekend is addressed.

Blessings and Thanks To All,

Judy Newport

Camping News!

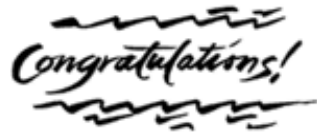


There is a family retreat weekend designed for families living with autism at Jumonville, during the weekend of August 26 – 28, 2011. Retreat Leader is Rev. Ed Saxman, older brother of our own Tracey Sepe! Registration deadline is August 17th, with a \$50 deposit. Cost is \$99 per adult and \$49 per child (3-11 yrs.). Camping scholarships are available.



We extend our Christian love and sympathy to the following persons who have lost loved ones:

- ◆ Family and friends of Dorothy Jean Harvison
- ◆ Mike and Sue Keller on the death of Mike's step-father
- ◆ Jerri and Larry Jacobs on the death of Jerri's father George Irwin
- ◆ Rikki and Andrew August on the death of Rikki's father Joe Kramer



Births

Congratulations to the following families who recently added new "Bundles of Joy" to their families:

- ◇ Mark and Bethany Barkell - son Luke Nicolaus. Proud grandparents are Warren and Pat Barkell
- ◇ Justin and Tori Shirey - daughter Lilly Ann. Proud great-grandparents are Carl and Elaine Shirey
- ◇ Chuck and Jodi Ney - daughter Alexa Grace. Proud grandparents are Joseph and Renee Volker
- ◇ Frank and Amber Audia - daughter Franchesca Joy
- ◇ Jake and Lauren Gradwell - son Ryan Jacob. Proud grandparents are Jack and Mona Cycak
- ◇ Bryan and Renee Diehl - daughter Grace Isabelle. Proud grandparents are Chuck and Jen Friedly
- ◇ Zack and Julie Kessler—daughter Molly Grace

Baptisms

We celebrate with the following families on the baptism of their children

- Bill and Heather Carideo - daughter Maria Lynn
- Anthony and Caryn Barravecchio - Nico Anthony
- Melissa Sue Bushik
- Christopher and Amber Watson - daughter Hannah Marie
- Steve and Jennifer Salvi - dedication of their daughter Gianna Magdalena
- Michael and Nicole Cole - son Maxim Michael



A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THANK YOU!

FROM HEAVEN'S POINT OF VIEW

If you could only see right now, from Heaven's point of view,
You'd witness mighty miracles, from what you say and do.

Jesus said, "You'd hear the prayers that fall upon My ear.
You would see souls daily growing, as My Word from you they hear."

"The gift that I have given you will forever change man's heart,
And help him grow deep in his faith, as Truth you will impart."

"Each man and woman, boy and girl, to whom you've shown the way
Will stand up for you in Heaven, with thankful hearts one day."

"They'll tell you how they came to know, the Truth that set them free,
Because you took the time to teach, and tell them about Me."

So thank you for your faithfulness. One day you'll finally see,
From the fruit of all your labor, great your reward will be.

By Linda J. Stevenson

A great big **THANK YOU** to all who helped with Vacation Bible School! From the 105 volunteers, to anyone who made a supply donation & prayed for VBS, to the 303 children that attended & their families...thank you! The Shake It Up Cafe would have been nothing without you. God has truly blessed Community Church! - from the bottom of our hearts, Erin & Patsy

VBS MISSIONS

With our VBS focus on God's "Cookbook", what better way to serve Him, than by serving food? During our week at VBS, our children worked to raise money for Shepherd's Heart Fellowship. We chose SHF because they not only serve food to the homeless of Pittsburgh, but they serve up the Word of God daily. Our goal for the week was to raise \$1500. The kids far surpassed this goal by raising \$3168.59! Praise God! Thank you to all who contributed to our mission! We are planning a visit to SHF on Sunday, September 11, to serve dinner and participate in a worship service. All VBS volunteers are invited to attend. Contact Erin Kerstetter at erin_kerstetter@yahoo.com with questions or to sign up. For more information on how you can help Shepherd's Heart Fellowship to "share the heart of Jesus with the streets of Pittsburgh", visit their website at www.shepheart.com

BRING A FRIEND
TO UMW



UMW NEWS

Fall is approaching and the UMW will be meeting on **September 12th at 7:00 p.m.** This meeting is our annual BRING A FRIEND MEETING. Be sure to bring all of your friends to the meeting so they can see for themselves what the UMW is all about.



Annual **FALL THIS-N-THAT SALE** will be hosted by the UMW on **September 24th** from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. and will include a bake sale. Please remember to save all of your gently used household items for donation for the sale. As usual the items can be dropped off at the church the week of the sale: (Please watch for further details about drop off locations in the church). If anyone would like to assist with the sale please plan on attending the day of the sale or consider helping in setting up before the sale or packing after the sale. We usually start setting up Thursday evening and all day Friday before the sale. Packing up starts after the sale at 2 p.m. and is usually finished by 3 p.m. ******ALL HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED******

If you enjoy baking please consider baking for or assisting with the bake sale that will be part of the THIS-N-THAT SALE.

****Tires, TVs, and Computers cannot be donated to the sale****

How will you respond?

By Elizabeth Somes

In June, I had the privilege of attending the 2011 WPA Annual Conference in Grove City as a Greensburg district lay equalization delegate. Most of the time there is spent in meetings taking care of the business of the conference. This year we voted on delegates to the Jurisdictional and General Conference meetings to be held in 2012. We also met in legislative sections to discuss, make suggestions and vote on reports, legislation and amendments and on Sunday we celebrated as new deacons and elders were ordained. There is a lot of work to be accomplished in the few days we are there but, there is also time for worship and reflection.

On the first day we were at conference, Bishop Bickerton presented us with his “State of the Church” address. During his comments, he made it known that many United Methodist Churches will be closing their doors in the coming years and compared this sad fact to that of an impending disaster. The disaster being that so many will never know the love of Jesus Christ if we don’t tell them. The question he then asked was “If the (closing) church is like an impending disaster, how will we respond?” In light of so many recent tornadoes and floods in our country and around the world, it is easy to envision the steps we might take in response to a natural disaster. We may send money, pray, send supplies or even go and help with a clean-up and reconstruction.

The question remaining is if we view those not knowing Christ as an impending disaster, what will we do to respond? Perhaps it is a little more difficult for you to envision how you might respond to the church not reaching new people. However, I believe our response to the crisis in the church can be much like that we exhibit to our neighbors in physical need. Some ways to help the church is give tithes and offerings, to pray for the church and its work, to gather supplies for mission projects and go and tell others about Jesus in our neighborhoods, our workplaces and on mission trips away from home.

A saying goes, “we can’t do everything but, we can do something” and 1 Corinthians 12:12 says, “For as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body—so also in Christ.” As we fall back into our autumn routines and re-start our calendars, I challenge you to respond to the impending disaster of the church. Will you commit to tithe during the October stewardship campaign? Will you regularly pray for your church to remain focused on the mission of the church “to know Christ and share Christ with others”? Will you support the UMW, food pantry, Uganda team and others as they collect supplies for missions? Will you go and invite a friend to join you in a small group this fall or at a special event?

Whatever our response, may our Lord Jesus be pleased!

Good Grief Corner

“When Special Help is Needed”

SEARCHING FOR SUPPORT:

Ask yourself:

1. Would I be able to sit and talk openly in a group or do I need someone to listen to me individually?
2. Do I need to hear other people who have had similar experiences?
3. Am I looking for someone to help me explore my faith questions?
4. Are there practical issues that I need to keep exploring, such as funeral rites, closing of estates, etc.
5. Do I need someone who understands medications?
6. Do I need someone to help me explore physical symptoms I am having to make sure there isn't something medically wrong with me?
7. Do I need someone to help me walk through the process of healing?

Ask potential caregivers:

1. What is their level of experience - their credentials?
2. Have they had any specific training in grief work? Do they work with all kinds of grief?
3. How long have they been in practice? How long have they been doing this kind of work?
4. Do they charge for their services? How much? Will my insurance pay for all or part of the fees?
5. Ask what type of services they offer, volunteer, spiritual guidance, professional counseling, individual or group, etc.
6. Have they ever had the personal experience of this kind of grief? (Know that you are perfectly within your rights asking this question, however you also need to know they may choose not to answer.

“Good Grief” is a bereavement grief group held in our church for 16 years. Once again, by the time you receive this newsletter, it should be available. If you are experiencing the pains and hurts of bereavement grief, please contact Shirley Nixon on any questions to become a member of the group. (724-744-0402) There is no charge for this group.

“Grief is the rope burns left behind when what we have held to most dearly is pulled out of reach, beyond our grasp.”

~ Stephen Levine ~

God's Devotional

TACT IS THE ART OF MAKING A POINT
WITHOUT MAKING AN ENEMY.

“Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” - Proverbs 12:18 NIV

In looking over a café menu, a woman noticed that both a chicken salad sandwich and a chicken sandwich were listed. She decided to order the chicken salad sandwich, but absentmindedly wrote “chicken sandwich” on her order slip. When the waiter brought the chicken sandwich, she protested immediately, insisting the waiter had erred.

Most waiters would have picked up the order slip and shown the customer the mistake she had made. But instead he expressed regret at the error, picked up the sandwich, returned it to the kitchen, and a moment later placed a chicken salad sandwich in front of the woman.

While eating her sandwich, the woman picked up her order slip and noticed the mistake she had made. When it was time to pay for the meal, she apologized to the waiter and offered to pay for both sandwiches. The waiter said, “No, ma'am, that's perfectly all right. I'm just happy you've forgiven me for being right”.

“Pursue some path, however narrow and crooked, in which you can walk with love and reverence.”

~ Henry David Thoreau ~



God's Daily Answer

“Do you know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.”

Runners call it “hitting the wall”. In a long endurance race, the body reaches the end of its limits and every muscle and fiber screams to quit. Experienced athletes know that you can push through the barrier and gain a second wind to win.

Living the Christian life is a marathon, and like long distance runners, most Christians “hit the wall” at some point. But when God called you to this higher purpose, He knew it would take determination to stay the course.

When you feel yourself tiring, becoming discouraged, losing steam, read the scriptures to regain your sense of mission and bolster your determination. Then look to God to give you a second wind to finish your race.

“The differences between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's DETERMINATION.”

~ Tommy Lasorda ~

New Members



Andrew (AJ) Brentzel
2046 Boxcartown Road
Jeannette, PA 15644

Ronald Gabris
950 Fifth Street
N. Huntingdon, PA 15642
724-217-3248
Wife: Mary
Child: Brooke

Melissa Bushik
340 Robbins Station Road
N. Huntingdon, PA 15642
724-757-8611

Stephanie Cline
176 Burrell Hill Road
Penn, PA 15675
724-600-4173
Child: Lacey

Alicia Zack
2096 Boxcartown Road
Jeannette, PA 15655

Lee and Patricia Critchlow
118 Limerick Road
Herminie, Pa 15637
724-446-9058

Steve Bouch
176 Burrell Hill Road
Penn, Pa 15675
724-600-4173

George and Krista Karnbauer
120 Irene Drive
Irwin, PA 15642
724-861-0286
Sons: Brendan and Logan



Hello, my name is Trent Somes and this year I was a youth page at WPAUMC Annual Conference. This experience was amazing, I got to meet other people, learn how our church works, and it was just fun. While I was there I did numerous tasks. I got to work on the floor and even the platform during debates, decisions, and votes. I also got to meet Bishop Bickerton and many other Methodist leaders in doing this. Before the adult delegates arrived, the pages made bulletins, guides, and books. This was definitely a beneficial experience. I think other kids in this congregation should be able to have this experience in the church just as I did. Not only would it be fun, but it also helps the teens better understand the way our church system works. It would be an opportunity that not many kids and teens get to have. I highly recommend applying.

Noah's Kids Before and After School Program - School will be starting before you know it, and what better place for your child to go than NOAH'S KIDS! Registration for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year will be August 8th from 4-7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Kids grade K through 5 who attend McCullough, Harrison Park or Sunrise elementary schools are welcome. Noah's Kids is a place for fun, friends and is a safe place for kids to be before and after school. For all the details call 724-744-3413 extension 104. Space is limited so be sure to register your kid(s). **P.S.** There are still openings in our Summer Day Camp - just call for information. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Homeless Children Back to School Supplies Drive - During the 2009-10 school year, there were 320 homeless students in Westmoreland County. The Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Homeless Children's Initiative is sponsoring a back to school supplies drive from July 9th through August 13th at Westmoreland Mall. School supplies are needed for children kindergarten through high school. The drop off site for the school supplies will be in the Center Court near the Back to School Train. School supplies will be accepted through the end of business on Saturday, August 13. Please contact Jerry O'Donnell at 724-863-7404 with questions.

Confirmation classes will begin this September for our students in seventh and eighth grades. Please phone the church office, 724-744-3413, or email chelsel@communityumc.info and give us the names of your students who are the right age for this class on church membership, United Methodist history, and the meaning of faith in Jesus Christ.

Bibles will be presented to third graders on September 17th and 18th. If you have a child in the third grade and would like for him/her to receive a Bible, please call the church office at 724-744-3413



HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE January 23-Feb 1, 2012

Have you ever considered walking where Jesus walked, or sailing on the Sea of Galilee, or walking the streets of Old Jerusalem? What it would be like to visit the birthplace of Jesus, or the site of the crucifixion, or better still, the empty tomb?

An opportunity to do these things and much more is coming. Pastor John and Patsy Ciampa will lead a Holy Land Tour next January. The dates are January 23 – thru February 1, 2012. The cost from Pittsburgh is just under \$3,000 per person.

The tour is sponsored by Educational Opportunities (“EO”), a Christian Tour Company with 37 years experience. Pastor John has traveled to the Holy Land with “EO” six times previously. The “Journey of a Lifetime” includes Guided Sightseeing, 1st Class Hotels, Deluxe Motorcoaches, Daily Breakfast & Dinner Buffets, Bible Studies and Lectures about the sites visited.

The sites include Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, Jericho, the Dead Sea, the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River, the Garden of Gethsemane, Mount of Olives and much more. It is truly a faith-expanding experience.

And for those who wish, for an additional fee, extensions tours to Egypt, Cairo, Sinai Desert, the Nile River, Jordan & Petra are available.

There are brochures available at several of the bulletin boards around the church. Pastor John & Patsy would be pleased to answer your questions and you can also get detailed information @ www.eot.travel. Click on the “Holy Land” tab.

There will be an Informational Meeting for anyone interested on Wednesday, August 31st at 7:00P.M. in Fellowship Hall. There is no obligation, just come and hear and see what this Pilgrimage is like. This event is open to anyone so please feel free to invite relatives, neighbors and friends.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to journey in the Land of the Bible? This may be the opportunity you’ve been waiting for.

As the saying goes: “next year in Jerusalem”.

Worship Corner

The Obedient Mind

Find a quiet corner...hoping you have a quiet corner. Read James 1:2-7.

When he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind...(James 1:6). We easily forget the requirement before the promise, don’t we? God’s extravagant gift of His wisdom is only given when a prior condition is met. God’s Word makes it clear. When we ask we must believe. Otherwise, His wisdom will not come.

So what does God mean by requiring our belief? Is it only that we must believe He will answer us? That’s only the half of it. We must believe — ahead of time — that what He tells us is wisdom to be followed. We must be committed to heed His instructions before He gives them. If we are not committed, He will not answer. If we do not purpose in our hearts to do His will, we will never discover it.

I’ll bet you’re like me...asking for God’s wisdom as an *option* to throw into the mix. It becomes one possibility among a range of many. If we are only requesting His advice, He will not give it. **He only gives solutions to be implemented, not suggestions to consider.** The commitment to follow comes first. The mind of God is generously granted to us, but only for us to obey. It is not a shopping item nor does it come with a return policy.

To ask for God’s will as an option to consider rather than a command to obey is to place our intellect above His. (Do we even dare?) We put ourselves in the position of authority, with Him submitting His proposals. He will not relate to us that way, y’know. He IS the authority. When He speaks, there is no better option. The omniscient Creator does not offer us a second-rate plan. His first direction is ALWAYS the right one.

How about Proverbs 3:5-6... ***Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.***

Do you need direction? Guidance? Wisdom from above? The crucial step, often neglected, is to ask. How often we try to figure things out on our own! How often we ask others for advice *before* we ask God! Ask Him now! Ask often. Make the asking a regular part of your life. Don’t wait until trouble comes; learn the mind of God now. He offers it generously (James 1:5). Now the next question...do you ask God for His wisdom with the resolve to obey it...regardless of the answer? If not, do not expect it to come. Expect rather to be tossed around like a wave in a storm. (Sound familiar to anyone?) But...if your heart will commit to His way, His way will be easily found. God gives us His mind in response to our faith.

Godspeed,

Johnny



Community Church Chancel Choir

Our first rehearsal of the Fall semester is Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 7PM SHARP!! Our first Sunday in the Chancel will be September 11th!!

KC³

(Kids' Community Church Choir)

We'll begin our Fall semester rehearsals on Sunday morning, September 11th!! If you're in 1st-6th grade, JOIN US!! We meet after the Offering during the 8:30AM worship service until 9:45AM.

Testament Players

(Community Church's Drama Ministry Team)

We will have many more opportunities to express dramatically the Truths of Scripture and life. SIGN UP by contacting Johnny by text, email or phone (in that order). 724-309-0513 or jasmia-lowski@comcast.net

Community Ringers

Our English Handbell Choir will begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. New ringers are always welcome.



HERO Sandwich

To celebrate the Bible's many heroes, make this sandwich for a picnic.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- Shredded lettuce
- Olive oil and vinegar
- Seasonings (salt, pepper, oregano)
- Italian crusty bread (six inches per person)
- Mayonnaise
- Sliced meat
- Sliced cheese
- Sliced tomato
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Toothpicks
- Tape



What you do:

1. Drizzle shredded lettuce with oil and vinegar; sprinkle with seasonings.
2. Cut bread in half lengthwise and spread mayo on both halves.
3. On bottom half, layer meats, cheese, tomato and lettuce.
4. Top with other half of bread. Cut in half.
5. Cut paper into small triangles. Write your favorite Bible heroes' names on them.
6. Tape the triangles to toothpicks to make pennants. Stick in sandwich halves. Enjoy!



action-packed faith

The greatest "super men" who ever lived put their faith into action.

Directions: Match each Bible character to the correct description.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Noah | 1. This disciple wrote a gospel, recounting many events in Jesus' life. |
| Stephen | 2. This man responded to God's commands, including the order to move. God made many promises to this man and his descendants. |
| Abraham | 3. This man was eager to rebuild Jerusalem. He helped the people protect their city, reminding them that God was on their side. |
| Luke | 4. This man, who became king of Judah at a young age, obeyed God's laws and helped people repent. |
| Nehemiah | 5. God saved this honest, hard-working man from destruction by having him build a place of safety for his family and every kind of creature. |
| Josiah | 6. This man stood by God's Word, showing strength of character even when faced with persecution and death. |

On the lines below, write your name and describe how you're a "hero" for God. What are some ways you put your faith into action?

Name: _____

Answers: Noah 5, Stephen 5, Abraham 6, Luke 1, Nehemiah 3, Josiah 4.

