

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

MARCH/APRIL 2013

“Why do you keep calling me ‘Lord’, ‘Lord’, when you don’t do what I say?” (Luke 6:46, NLT)

“Not everyone who calls out to me, ‘Lord! Lord! will enter the Kingdom of heaven.”

(Matthew 7:21, NLT)

One day, some colleagues and I were talking about various denominations and their beliefs on how one is “saved” or “who gets in and who doesn’t”. It got me thinking again about these verses in Matthew and Luke.

Jesus is teaching the disciples and those who had come to listen, what it meant to follow him. What it is like to be in the Kingdom of God. How many of us who profess to be Christians—followers of the Christ—actually follow the teachings of Christ daily? We profess his teachings verbally, but somehow our allegiance gets swallowed up in the process of living out our lives. It doesn’t matter if we call ourselves Methodist, Baptist, Episcopalian, or Independent, etc., the bottom line is...do we “Walk the walk”?

We all have our professions of faith/belief in Jesus Christ. But when asked by the One whom we pledge ourselves to do the will of God everyday—many of us find all sorts of excuses that make our faith conditional.

This made me think how often we do all kinds of good things: feeding the poor, building homes for the homeless, giving our money to those who have no money. These are good things to do, but if the relationship with our Lord is absent, they are empty works.

Christ is our foundation for everything we do. For out of our love and relationship for Christ, we do the will of God. We live the Kingdom life. If we live outside the Kingdom, then our service becomes rote and meaningless, spiritless. Or we can live inside God’s Kingdom, doing God’s will, in the power and blessing of the Holy Spirit. I don’t know about you, but I want Jesus to recognize me and affirm me when the time comes. The sure way to know is to begin and continue having a solid relationship with Christ now and have faith that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct your steps in God’s service!

Blessings,

Pastor Debra

LENTEN AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Community Lenten Study

The Way: Walking in the Steps of Jesus by Adam Hamilton

Our Lenten study begins with a meal and then we will transition into our study for the evening. We will share our weekly study with St. John's Lutheran Church.

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| 3/6 | Week 3 | 6:30pm meal, 7:15pm Lenten study@ St. Paul's |
| 3/13 | Week 4 | 6:30pm meal, 7:15pm Lenten study@ St. John's Lutheran |
| 3/20 | Week 5 | 6:30pm meal, 7:15pm Lenten study@ St. Paul's UMC |
| 3/27 | Week 6 | 6:30pm meal, 7:15pm Lenten study@ St. John's Lutheran |

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| 3/28 | 7pm Maundy Thursday Service |
| 3/29 | Noon—3pm Church Open for Prayer |
| 3/31 | Easter Sunday
6:30am Easter Dawn Service
7am Continental Breakfast
10am Worship Service
***No Sunday School |

Lectionary Readings for March

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|------|---|------|--|
| 3rd | Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8 (UMH 788) | 24th | <i>Liturgy of Palms</i>
Luke 19:28-40
Psalm 118:1-2,19-29 (UMH 839) |
| 10th | 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9
Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32 (UMH 766)
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 | 31st | <i>Liturgy of the Passion</i>
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16 (UMH 764)
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14-23 :56 or Luke 23:1-49
Acts 10:34-43 |
| 17th | Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126 (UMH 847)
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8 | | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
John 20: 1-18 or Luke 24: 1-12 |

HOLY WEEK READINGS

- Monday:** Isaiah 42:1-19
Psalm 36:5-11(UMH 771)
Hebrews 9:11-15
John 12:1-11
- Tuesday:** Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 71:1-14 (UMH 794)
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 12:20-36
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 70 (UMH 793)
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13: 21-32
- Holy Thursday:** Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14
Psalm 116:1-4,12-19(UMH837)
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17,31b-35
- Good Friday:** Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 22 (UMH 752)
Hebrews 10: 16-25
John 18: 1-19:42
- Holy Saturday:** Job 14:1-14
Psalm 31: 1-4,15-16 (UMH 764)
1 Peter 4:1-8
Matthew 27: 57-66

Lectionary Readings for April

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|------|---|------|--|
| 7th | Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 150 (UMH 862)
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20: 19-31 | 21st | Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23 (UMH 754 or 137)
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10: 22-30 |
| 14th | Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)
Psalm 30 (UMH 762)
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19 | 28th | Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148 (UMH 861)
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35 |

Care Ministry... Ministering to the needs of our Congregation

- **Care to Homebound Members**- Visitation, Communion, Car Transportation, Phone contact, Card Showers

Card Shower for the Month of March

Some of our St. Paul's church family are "shut-in" and are unable to attend worship. We would like to let them know we think of them.

Please consider sending a card or note. For the month of March, we would like to shower Earl Frederick with our thoughts and prayers.

Earl Frederick
379 W. Butler Dr.
Drums, Pa 18222

Card Shower for the Month of April

Some of our St. Paul's church family are "shut-in" and are unable to attend worship. We would like to let them know we think of them.

Please consider sending a card or note. For the month of April, we would like to shower Audrey Miller with our thoughts and prayers.

Audrey Miller
8 Lions Dr.
Drums, Pa 18222

New Member's Class Forming

When: 7-8pm on Wednesday April 10th, 17th, 24th

Content: What is Methodism? ; What is meant by Connectionalism?; Faith Beliefs; Commitment; Being a Disciple of Jesus Christ; Faith Disciplines. During each class, we will discuss topics and entertain questions.

If you are already a member and want to brush up on these topics, please feel free to come and be part of the discussions!

If you are interested in joining the class, please see Pastor Debra

Church Women United Program

Location: Providence Place- Rt. 309, Drums

Date: Friday March 1, 2013

Time: 2pm **Cost:** FREE!

There will be a program followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship. Everyone is welcome.

***If anyone can bake 1 or 2 dozen cookies for the event, please see Pastor Debra.**

Eastern Pa Annual Conference May 16-18

This year Clergy and Laity Sessions will be held at Asbury UMC in Allentown, PA on May 4, 2013 beginning at 9:30 am - Noon.

At 10:00 am on Thursday, May 16, 2013 Bishop Johnson will open Annual Conference with a brief devotion followed by a time of sharing the wonderful ministries that are happening on each of our districts. Because the emphasis of this annual conference will be on wholeness, there will be specific time built into the schedule for fellowship/prayer/reflection to invite you to ponder the question: How is it with your soul? Labyrinths and prayer rooms will also be available for your use.

On Thursday evening, May 16th at 7:00 pm, we will have our Memorial Service and Communion. Bishop Violet Fisher will preach at this service.

On Friday, May 17, Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton from the Western PA Annual Conference will present an update on the denomination's efforts to irradiate followed by an update from GBGM's health and poverty ministries.

Dr. Kirk B. Jones, author of numerous books on self-care, will be our keynote speaker on Saturday morning, May 18.

March Birthdays

10th Brett Gemmell
Drew Gemmell
11th Lynn Pikna
14th Barbara Cartwright
15th Colleen James
23rd Adam Cartwright Jr
Andrea Scirrotto
23rd Jim Gemmell
25th Tyler Waltman
28th Karen Wojtowicz
Dave Slowik
29th Ron Harman

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

1st Birgit Limbaugh
3rd Aaron Harmon
John Sanute
4th Connie Yackiel
8th Aggie Smith
9th Jennifer Hopkins
15th Jared Cartwright
16th Ryan Scirrotto
19th Becky Caldwell
Joyce Bell
Pastor Debra Hebden
21st Pam Hummell
22nd Jennifer Young
23rd Jill Mason
Ariel Slowik
Carl Snyder
24 Isabella Swire
25th Kathie Florkiewicz
26th Sarah Musselman
27th Justin Yackiel
30th Colby Bognar
Audrey Miller

Anniversaries

26th John & Cindy Kimsal
27th Tom & Karen Baker



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335 W. Butler Valley Drive
Drums Pa 18222

Phone: 570-788-3051
Fax: 570-788-3051

TO BRING PEOPLE TO CHRIST BY
CARING AND SERVING

Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday School : 9am

Sunday Service: 10am

Fellowship Time in the Social Hall following
Worship.

Our Staff

Pastor: Rev. Debra Hebden

Secretary: Amy Jazowski

Organist: Barb McGuire

30 Hour Famine: WE'RE GOING HUNGRY

FACT: Around the world, 925 million people are hungry. That is roughly 3 times the population of the U.S. and it's 925 million too many.

During World Vision's 30 Hour Famine, we're going without food to help others overcome hunger for good.

Will you pray for us? As our event approaches, ask God to bless and transform us as we overcome hunger.

If you would like to give a donation, please make checks payable to World Vision. Every donation is tax deductible.

Our Famine Dates: March 15-16, 2013.

Goal: To raise \$5,000

Contact: Holly at 570.788.4973



**IMAGINE NO MALARIA: A WORLD OF PEOPLE
UNIFIED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST A NEEDLESS KILLER.**

The people of the United Methodist Church

As you know, Imagine No Malaria is an extraordinary effort by The United Methodist Church to reduce preventable malaria deaths in Africa. When the campaign started in 2010, a child died every 30 seconds from this mosquito-transmitted disease. Now deaths have been cut in half, and a person dies every 60 seconds from malaria.

Mothers and children are the most vulnerable.

- Young children have not yet developed partial immunity to malaria.
- Pregnant women, whose immunity is decreased by pregnancy, especially during the first and second pregnancies, are also at risk.

Your congregation's gifts to Imagine No Malaria will help the mothers in Africa who struggle each day to protect their children from malaria.*

You will find special Mothers' Day resources for your worship service at www.imagenomalaria.org/ShareTheLove.

Want to donate? Here's how!

- Text MOM to 27722 and select a donation level of \$10, \$25, \$40, \$75 or \$100.
- Mail donations to UMC-Imagine No Malaria, Mother's Day, P.O. Box 440544, Nashville, TN 37244.

Thank you,

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton

Bishop Sally J. Dyck

Western Pennsylvania

Northern Illinois

Chair, Global Health Initiative

Chair, INM Fundraising Committee