

A look ahead to Lenten and Easter Services

March 21 at 7:30p.m.

The Pine Valley Community Choir Presents

I Will Rise

Free will offering...PUMC - reception to follow

March 28 at 10:15 a.m.

Palm Sunday Service

April 1 at 6 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service with light meal

April 2 at 7 p.m.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 3 at Time TBA

Walk to the Crosses

April 4 at 8 a.m.

Early Morning Youth Service

April 4 at 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast served by the Youth

April 4 at 10:15 a.m.

Easter Cantata entitled

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

From the Pastor's Desk...

March brings us ever closer to the annual entrance to spring. Hurray!!! Yes!! From my youth, the annual ritual of 'sugarin' has been a source of joy and some dread during the aforementioned days. The sense of dread was the helping out or 'going to the woods' to enjoy the varied aspects of making maple syrup. If you have ever done this, you know what I'm talking about. It is hard work tapping trees, gathering sap, firing the evaporator and the like. All this is accomplished in sometimes less than ideal work conditions. But there is joy as well!

Recent strong markets and prices for maple syrup have increased profitability. Having your own maple products for personal consumption is a great benefit and a source of pride for many producers. I have also noticed that in a family operation, like my situation, there are other joys as well. One of those is the working together of young and old in a common cause. I remember the call of "we are going to the woods" and my often reluctance to that summons. As I grew older, the desire to participate grew as well. My sons have even remarked that those days weren't so bad and even look forward to helping if they are home during the season. My nieces and nephews, of which there are considerable numbers of each, enjoy this season even if there are days of 'light' reluctance. Some even list this activity when they are recognized as "Student of the Quarter" and the like

I relay the above thoughts as a way of looking at Christian disciplines. At our District Pastor meetings, we have been studying Adele Ahlberg Calhoun's book, *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook*. Calhoun provides an extensive and comprehensive user-friendly guide to the classical and some newer disciplines for Christians to follow. I especially liked her comment on these in the forward of her book. She recites, "Take heart, transformation happens as you keep company with Jesus". The spiritual disciplines or exercises serve as company keepers with Jesus. The more one practices these, the more the company grows. Like my old discipline of 'going to the woods', encouraged by a ruddy faced paternal presence...the more you keep company with Jesus, the more your love will grow for Him and the 'gathering help'.

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The apostle Peter's words ring true through the ages. "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and the day of eternity. Amen". (II Peter 3:18 NRSV)

Grow in this grace and knowledge. You never know how Jesus may show up! Keeping company with Him will help you come to love and appreciate how He is present day in and day out.

As spring and Lent unfold in God's glory!

Rev. Steve Wiggers

On February 14, 2010, we welcomed Adriana Jo Lombardo and Maddox Thomas Lombardo into the PUMC through the celebration of Christian Baptism. Lindsey and Philip Lombardo are the parents of these children. Their older brother is Camden. Grandparents are Jon and Linda Nobbs and Chuck and Gloria Lombardo. We welcome these children in love and we pray God's richest blessings upon them and their family.

Burton Muzzy, a former member of the PUMC, passed away on February 12, 2010. Our sympathy is with his family during this time of grief and adjustment to life without him.

*We have been invited
to the Alfred United Methodist Church
Raise the Roof Celebration!*

Event: Dedication of their new roof, dinner, and music to celebrate God's great gifts, provided by PUMC Praise Team and Saved By Grace

When: Sunday, March 14, 2010, at 4 p.m.

Place: Alfred United Methodist Church, 1389 Moland Road, Alfred Station, NY

RSVP by March 7, 2010, to (607) 587-8168

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

We have received \$13,124 in tithes and offerings through February 21. This is an average of \$4,375 per week.

We have received \$420 for Missions in February.

During the month of February, we also received the following:

- \$120 - Anderson support
- \$285 - Haiti relief
- \$16 - Initial offerings
- \$145 - JOY Center
- \$140 - Hart-Button Scholarship Fund
- \$120 - RFKC
- \$25 - Food Pantry
- \$210 - Memorials

It is hard to believe, but Easter is right around the corner; and Easter is, in fact, my favorite holiday of the year. This year we will have an Easter celebration, April 4 during the Sunday School time (9-10 a.m.). The details are being worked out as of the writing of this note, but I would encourage everyone to join our Elementary Sunday School classes as we celebrate our risen Christ.

As long as I have a moment, I would like to encourage ALL PARENTS to bring your children to join our Sunday School classes each and every Sunday. I realize in our busy lives it is much easier to sleep in and get that extra hour of sleep on a Sunday, but it is my belief that the lesson you are teaching your kids by bringing them to Sunday School will carry with them throughout their lives. It just may be that the little seed that is planted during their young lives may serve a greater purpose as they grow up and have to make some really tough decisions. If you are reading this newsletter and are not a part of our Sunday School program, we also have classes for adults so you can also be "fed" at the same time as your children.

George and I consider it a privilege to teach your children and believe that many times your children teach us more than we teach them. Please join us on Easter and each and every Sunday throughout the year.

Carm Catanese
George Anderson
Christian Ed Co-Chairs



Thank you note....

Pastor Steve and Members of PUMC,
Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

The Family of Jim Lenart

Sunday Morning Worship Team

March Lay Readers

March 7

Karen Morton

March 14

Becky Sprague

March 21

Carol Hay

March 28

Jody Marsh

April Lay Readers

April 4

Brynne Hindsale

April 11

Jan Wheeler

April 18

Buck Seekings

April 25

Doug Hay

Ushers

MARCH

Kyle and Brynne Hindsale

Tory and Adam Irgang

APRIL

Dan Courtine

Amy Peterson

George and Trudy Anderson

Nursery Helpers

3/7 - Yvonne Calcaterra
and Emily Waller

3/14 - Julia Nelson and
Brittany Lenart

3/21 - Tory and Adam
Irgang

3/28 - Barb and Lauren
Tordella

Remember to let Tina know if you'd like to help out in the nursery. She's always looking for volunteers.

Tape Ministry

March 7

Gerrie Simmons** A116
Vi Sturges B227
Phyllis Patterson** H. Green
Kathy Smith**TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Art & Jeanette Osborne
Art & Jeanette Osborne
Trudy Anderson
Lester & Wyona Wevers
Lester & Wyona Wevers

March 14

Gerrie Simmons** A116
Vi Sturges B227
Phyllis Patterson** H. Green
Kathy Smith**TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Stan & Elinor Sturges
Stan & Elinor Sturges
Diane Johnson
Barbara Hart
Barbara Hart

March 21

Gerrie Simmons** A116
Vi Sturges B227
Phyllis Patterson** H. Green
Kathy Smith**TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Jack & Linda Sturges
Jack & Linda Sturges
Rachel Reardon
Eloise Smith
Eloise Smith

March 28

Gerrie Simmons** A116
Vi Sturges B227
Phyllis Patterson** H. Green
Kathy Smith**TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Sharon Passarelli
Sharon Passarelli
Julia Nelson
Thea Kester
Thea Kester

**No tape—just a bulletin and a short visit

REMINDER - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Bill Peck is always looking for additional volunteers to make visits and deliver tapes and bulletins to those on our tape ministry list. If this is a ministry in which you would like to share, please contact Bill at 782-2249. It will surely be a bright spot in your week!

Keeping a Holy Lent

The following is a suggested list of Lenten disciplines or sacrifices to consider for the season of Lent (February 17 - March 28, 2010). This is a complement to the pamphlet What You Should Know About Lent.

Prayerfully consider these possibilities, and select one or two or perhaps more if led, to offer as a sacrifice to God. The 'discipline' will be to practice these during this season with God's help. Some of these you may be led to practice these throughout the year, while others may be most beneficial just during the days of Lent. God be with you.

prayer (daily personal).....small group study.....
repentance.....fasting.....meditation.....outreach...
silence.....solitude.....family devotion time.....
journaling.....devotional time.....Lenten services...
community service.....reading/studying of the Bible....
acts of giving.....additional church attendance.....
prayer in community.....witness/Divine appointment....
begin tradition for Lent.....other

Cornerstone District Ministry Equipping School

Sunday, March 6, 2010

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Christ First UMC

Reservations are due to District Office by 2/28/10

YOUTH GROUP

February was filled with lots of winter sports fun! Thanks to Joe and Jean Edwards for inviting the Youth to use their hill for a sledding party. The cold temperatures didn't get in the way of lots of trips down the hill and an ambitious jump built by some future engineers!

We also joined more than 100 youth from around the Cornerstone District for ice skating and broomball at the Ice Arena. The good news is that everyone was safe (except maybe Adam) and had a great time meeting young people from other churches, even if we did beat them in broomball! Thanks to all the parents who pitched in to transport 22 youth there and back.

During March, the Youth Group will be hosting a "Hobo Dinner" with help from Tim and Tena Dills, so keep an eye out and plan to join us. Easter Sunday is also right around the corner and the Youth will be leading the Early Worship service at 8 a.m. with breakfast to follow at 8:30. This means there will be more opportunities for your support and we thank you for continually remembering us in your prayers- we feel it uplifting and supporting us weekly.

Ladies...are you ready to claim 1 Cor 10:31?

Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. we will continue a 10 week series on physical and spiritual wellness. The hour includes:

1. Spiritual Truths to apply to our daily lives - Melissa Wiggers
2. Health tips - Parish Nurse Jody Marsh
3. Weight Control - a way to accomplish and/or maintain a healthy body
4. Time of prayer - a quiet time to rest in the Lord
5. Organized exercise from 8-9pm for anyone interested

Whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do,
do it to the glory of God."

Membership - Confirmation

On January 31, 2010, we welcomed four individuals into membership of the PUMC. The following information about each of them will help you get to know them a little better.

Dave Calcaterra lives in Panama with his wife, Yvonne, and their four girls, Hannah, Gabrielle, Alyssa, and Rebecca. He is an avid fan of the Buffalo Bills and all sports in general. Dave is an active member of the Panama softball team. He attends Sunday school regularly and is on the Evangelism and Outreach Team. Dave travels as a Union Construction worker.

Brittany Lenart is 12 years old and in the 7th grade at PCS. She enjoys playing sports including basketball and volleyball. She is presently playing basketball for the Lady Panthers. She also loves spending time with her friends and family and loves going on vacation with them. Brittany lives in Panama with her mom and brother, Nicholas. She would like to thank everybody for the support given her at the time of the loss of her father. She will miss him. RIP, Dad.

Lauren Tordella is a 7th grader at PCS. She is a member of the chorus and really likes singing. She played on the 7th grade girls basketball team and is a member of the Ski and Board Club. Lauren enjoys hanging out with her friends and listening to music. She likes swimming and yoga. Her favorite subject is art. Lauren lives in Ashville with her mom, dad and brother, Andrew.

Emily Waller is the daughter of David and Lisa Waller. She has a sister, Sara, and a brother, Hunter. Her interests include gymnastics, competition cheerleading, drama club, musicals and singing, playing the piano, flute. and perhaps guitar in the future. She would like to start diving for the PCS swim team next year. Emily loves horses, nature, camping, and hiking. She will start hunting this year. Her family has 2 dogs, a cat, and new baby ferret, Snowflake. She has grown up knowing God, but her relationship with Him is closer than ever these last couple of years. She attends PUMC youth Group and has enjoyed Spring and Fall Gatherings

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(Emily Waller, continued)

and particularly, Campfire for Christ. Being baptized was an amazing experience, and she thanks all for sharing that with her. She is excited about being a member of our church family. Emily wishes God's blessings to you all.



Prayer Chain

If you have a concern you would like others to pray for, please call Susie Davis at 782-4611 or Jean Edwards at 782-2800. Your prayer request will be passed down the chain to 20+ others who will pray, and continue to pray, about your situation.

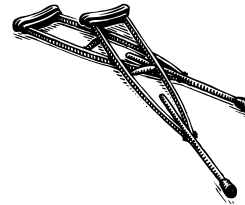
From the Parish Nurse....

Mozzarella Stuffed Meatloaf

- 1 1/2 lb. lean ground turkey/beef/chicken
- 10 oz. frozen chopped spinach, drained
- 1/2 c. bread crumbs
- 1 c. part skim mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 c. minced onions
- 2 egg whites
- 2 Tbsp. ketchup
- 1 Tbsp. Worcester sauce

Preheat oven to 375. Thaw and drain spinach. Mix all ingredients in a large mixing bowl. In a greased loaf pan, pack mixture into shape. Bake for 60 minutes or until top is golden brown. Let stand 5-10 minutes after baking. Cut into 6 even pieces. ENJOY!

Donations to Haiti: Many of you have asked how you can help Bert and Roberta in Haiti. An e-mail from them said the best and fastest way is to send donations to: CSI Ministries, 1714 West Royale Dr., Muncie, IN 47304-2240, marked for Health Center Haiti or Anderson support.



Thank you to all who donated crutches, walkers, and canes to be taken to Haiti.

United Methodist Men's Group

As a new year has begun, so has the United Methodist Men's Group. I am very excited about the group. We have met 4 times and will meet again on March 2. We have had some great discussions. We have been talking about being an out-reach group from the church and could use more input. On February 27, at 1 p.m., we will be helping one of our own get his fire wood cut.

I have been in contact with Doug Kibbe from BPUMC. The Corner-stone District is planning a men's retreat titled "Draw a Line in the Sand" which will be held on May 7 and 8. The cost will be \$45 with lodging and food or \$30 if no lodging is needed. I would ask that you pray about this. This is a great opportunity to reach out and to fellowship with other Godly men. I will be putting out sign-up sheets and posters. I will have more information soon. This can be a time to reach out to those friends and family that you think may enjoy getting away for the night to just hang out with some Christian men.

Your Brother in Christ Jesus Our Lord,

Howie Wheeler

Evangelism and Outreach Team

To our friends in Christ,

The Lord has provided many opportunities for the Evangelism and Outreach Team to serve Him and His people. Next week, take a look around the church and see if you can see the Hand of God at work.

In February, we put on a Valentine Dinner, serving over 30 dinners, and sharing an evening of love in Christ. We hope to do this again next year, and that more will join in the festivities. Remember that Christ is our true Valentine, and all are to embrace Him.

On March 27, we are joining forces with the Christian Bow Hunters of America. A wild game dinner will be served, along with a domestic entrée, pie, and home-made ice cream. Look for more information, sign up sheets, and tickets at the Welcome Table.

We thank you for your support in the mission of evangelism and outreach.

God bless you all.

The Evangelism and Outreach Team



There will be an E & O meeting on Tuesday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m.

*****ATTENTION LADIES*****

Ladies, do you need a break? Do you want to have some fun? Do you need to be uplifted?

How would you like to get away from it all and go to Camp Findley on March 12 and 13 to do some card making and do a little scrap booking, too? The cost will be \$30. There is a sign up sheet on the Welcome table.

We need to know how many are interested so we can book a building for the number of people coming. Please sign up as soon as possible. The deadline is March 8.

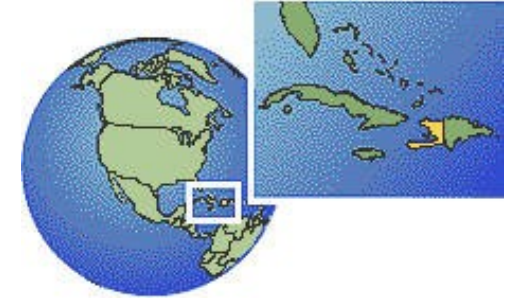
If you have any questions, see Melissa Wiggers or Susie Davis.

...from

Bert and

Roberta

in Haiti...



What to write for the March edition of the newsletter?

Contemplation requires inspiration.

Inspiration requires motivation.

Motivation requires incentive.

Incentive requires encouragement.

Encouragement requires hope.

Hope requires faith.

Faith.

We are doing well here in Haiti, and we attribute that to our faith. Our faith has calmed our fears, quieted our anxieties. Our faith brought us to Panama United Methodist Church, and sent us on to Haiti. Faith motivates our commitment to Christ; it has encouraged us to be humble, to accept His grace. We continue to serve Him faithfully.

We want to say thank you to all of you who have made us think, inspired us, motivated and encouraged us. We appreciate your faith in us and know our hope for the future rests in our faith in Him today.

With thanksgiving and praise,

Blessings,
Bert and Roberta

Bondye di ou: fe pa iu, m'afe pa m'

God says to you, "Do your part, I'll do mine."

From Hidden Meaning by Wally Turnbull