

Reverend Steven M. Taylor, Pastor
 Kathy Peck, Program Coordinator/Secretary
 Tory and Adam Irgang, Youth Leaders
 Jody Marsh, Parish Nurse
 Julie Nagel, Music Director/Accompanist
 Krista Odell, Accompanist
 Art Osborne, Custodian
 Pat Sobolewski & Sandy Crossley,
 JOY Preschool
 Bert and Roberta Anderson - in transition
 Dr. Mark and Diane Abbott in Spain
 Reverend Peter Perry in Alaska

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday - 9 a.m. - noon
 Tuesday - 9 a.m. - noon
 Wednesday - 9 a.m. - noon
 Wednesday Evening - 6 - 6:45 p.m.

From Pastor Steve's Desk...

Welcome to this latest edition of *GraceNotes!* Whether this is this first time you've pick one up, or if you've been reading about what our Lord is doing at Panama UMC for as long as you can remember, this is the place to find everything you're looking for.

Let me start by saying a heartfelt and warm THANK YOU to the PUMC family for your expressions of appreciation for the Taylor family during October (Pastor Appreciation Month). Even though we have only been here a very short time, you have made us feel even MORE welcome. It is truly a blessing to be here, and we remarked recently that we are starting to feel at home here and with you all. Thank you for showing God's love for us. One thing I would ask is that you continue to pray daily for Stacy, the kids, and me as we journey together in ministry with our congregation.

In Revelation 1:8, Jesus said, "I am the Alpha and the Omega." John goes on to write that Jesus is the one, "...who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." The beginning and end of everything is Jesus, the first and the last. When good things start, we can give honor and glory to Jesus. When things come to an end, we praise God who has carried us and sustained us. With that in mind, I finish my story of our first chapters for you...

When I say we were a normal couple, that's an understatement, I suppose. As if there is really any such thing as 'normal', we found ourselves wanting to buy a house within a few months of being married. We liked our cozy apartment, but wanted to explore houses, kids, etc. So we shopped around and found a nice white house and one acre of land in the country town of Alden. It was modest, but just right for us. After ridding the house of the color brown (which was everywhere), we settled in. At this time, Stacy and I were both working fulltime jobs in engineering. Needless to say, we had time and money to do just about anything we wanted. So, we fixed up the house, bought some toys, and life was good. We were active in the Bowmansville UMC – Stacy as organist and choir director and me as Lay Leader. Life was pretty good, you could say. A few short years after we moved to Alden, Benjamin Steven Taylor was born on 4/4/96. Even though I was a pretty nervous Dad, we had a blast raising this little one who liked to projectile vomit and needed three diapers to form his hips right from being born completely breach. Nineteen months later, Abigail Ruth Taylor was born on 11/11/97. What a joy, challenge, and blessing it continues to be to raise the best two kids in the world. Stacy left her job to be a full-time Mom. What a blessing that has been as well.

(continued on page 2)

(Pastor Steve, con't.)

I guess I began to hear my call to ministry slowly (or maybe it was me that was slow). When I was engaged in ministry, especially at Camp Findley, I would find that my passion was telling people about Jesus. I was energized by singing and playing my guitar. I remember clearly one day while leading Tent Camp I told Stacy that I feel I need to be doing ministry full time. She said, "I know." That was the first day of the rest of my life. I began to think about going to seminary, becoming a pastor, and leaving my job, house, and everything that I had known. Like any good engineer, I came up with a five-year plan that included working my way through seminary, being commissioned as an elder, and then taking an appointment.

In 2002-03, a chain of events forever taught me that even though I can plan well, it's Jesus who has the final say! I entered seminary in September 2002, my Dad died from complications of diabetes in December 2002, and in April 2003, my District Superintendent called to ask if I would be willing to lead the church in Little Valley. I remember thinking, "No, I can't do that, because it's NOT in my five-year plan, God!" Through much prayer and discussion with Stacy and the kids (now 6 and 4 years old), we decided that whatever we do, we'll do it together and we'll always have God and each other...no matter what. I asked a pastor friend of mine if he thought I should be a pastor. He told me that he wasn't going to tell me what to do, but that I would know it was right if I simply couldn't think of doing anything else.

We took that leap of faith and in August 2003, I left my engineering job which I loved, to step into the place where God would teach me more than I could ever learn in any job or classroom. The barriers that were in the way (a house to sell, training to get, etc.) were systematically dismantled by God. We sold our house in two weeks, we made all the plans to begin this journey and God reminded me again, that He is the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

As we begin this next chapter of life and ministry, I pray that this glimpse into my heart over the last few months has been received in the spirit of transparency. I don't write about myself and my family to prove anything other than the fact that God can use anyone and everyone in amazing ways if you let Him. God can take impossible (or at least improbable) circumstances and turn them on a dime for His glory. This shy, geeky, not-so-eloquent engineer will never be all that he needs to be on his own, but with God's grace and a sense of humor, God will continue to use me to preach the Word and love people. I give honor to my family and glory to my God for His willingness to redeem me and offer me this opportunity to do just that.

Keep the faith! Share your story! Love the Lord God! Find each other great friends! Worship with passion! Forgive quickly! Apologize from your heart! Laugh! Sing! Be His!

Shalom,
Pastor Steve

This and That

Baked goods are needed for the 10 a.m. Fellowship Time on Sunday mornings between Sunday School and Worship. Please sign up on the Welcome Table.

Remember, every Sunday, we will be collecting **loose change** for the **Food Pantry**.

Julie has chosen a **Christmas Cantata!** We have plenty of chairs available, one of which has YOUR name on it! Please prayerfully consider joining us. In addition to your being a blessing to others, you will be blessed beyond measure.

If you have an **e-mail address**, please make sure to give it to Kathy in the church office. You can also drop it in the offering plate, and it will be left for her. Pastor Steve sends out a Monday morning e-mail message that starts the week out on a positive note, and you don't want to miss it!

Kathy also needs updated **U.S. Postal Service addresses**, as well as **e-mail addresses** for your college students. She is constantly updating our "master list" of addresses, so please make sure she has their current information.

Put these dates on your calendar:

- 11/5 and 6 - Men's Bowhunting Retreat at Camp Findley
- 11/5-7 - Scrapbooking, Journaling & Papercrafting Retreat at Camp Findley
- 11/6 - Women's Retreat at Edwards Chapel UMC
- 11/19 and 20 - Lay Speaker Training School
- 1/8/11 - Something fun for the whole family - Details TBA

Are you looking for your special ministry, something that might be your passion? Think about becoming a leader for the young youth programs K.O.K and K.F.C. If this is something you might be interested in, please see Pastor Steve for more details.



Hello...the sights and sounds of fall are clearly around us... Leaves changing colors and falling off the trees (and seemingly never ending raking); people putting away summer tables and chairs; making homes and gardens ready for winter; getting that lawn mowed for the last time; and so much more. I'm sure glad I don't have to do any of that. I can just stay here in my cozy corner of the PUMC world and stay warm. I do have to get a few things ready for winter but I've got plenty of time!

I was able to sneak across the street and go in the back door when Steve and Stacy scheduled a work day at the parsonage. The group of people that came worked hard to take off wallpaper and paint woodwork...and then were treated to lunch made by Steve's mom. Sure did smell yummy! I think the Taylors are planning an Open House soon so please watch for the date and time. The parsonage looks great and they want everyone to stop in.

Lots of things happening around here, too! There have been meetings and planning for the months ahead. There certainly was a lot of excitement and energy around here last week. The smells coming from the kitchen were incredible and the number of people who came out to help Tim and Tena get ready for the Harvest Dinner was awesome. I so enjoyed watching everyone have fun and work together. I was a little disappointed because there was not even a crumb left over on the floor for me when all was said and done!

I'm a little confused with the Christmas tree up in the sanctuary (seems a little early to me) - but seeing all the presents under it leads me to believe that some less fortunate children are going to be very happy when they receive them. Operation Christmas Child is such a great opportunity to spread God's love around the world.

I'm looking forward to "Trunk or Treat," hosted by the Sunday School. Maybe this will bring in more kids when they see what a good time we have at the PUMC.

Well, Pam needs to get this to press so I better go for now. Have a great November...Happy Thanksgiving to all. I'm looking forward to December and Christmas and celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Love and Blessings,
Charlie

Sunday Morning Worship Team

November

Lay Readers

11/7 - Linda Sturges
11/14 - Ricky Eggleston
11/21 - Kyle Hinsdale
11/28 - Pam Ireland

Ushers

Fred and Shelley Croscut
Doug and Carol Hay

Nursery Helpers

11/7 - Julia Nelson and Corinne Edwards
11/14 - Barb and Lauren Tordella
11/21 - Carol Hay and Sarah Osborne
11/28 - Stacy and Abby Taylor

December

Lay Readers

12/5 - Ben Taylor
12/12 - Yvonne Calcaterra
12/19 - Cantata
12/26 - Tyler Marsh

Ushers

Dave and Yvonne Calcaterra
George and Trudy Anderson

Nursery Helpers

12/5 - Thea Kester and Corinne Edwards
12/12 - Karen Morton and Lauren Tordella
12/19 - Yvonne Calcaterra and Alyssa Jaeger
12/26 - Kelly and Sarah Osborne

Tape Ministry

November 7

Gerrie Simmons* LSS A116
Phyllis Patterson HGreen 327
Kathy Smith TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Thea Kester
Eloise Smith
Everett King
Everett King

November 14

Gerrie Simmons* LSS A116
Phyllis Patterson HGreen 327
Kathy Smith TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Art & Jeanette Osborne
Lester & Wyona Wevers
Jean Edwards
Jean Edwards

November 21

Gerrie Simmons* LSS A116
Phyllis Patterson HGreen 327
Kathy Smith TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Diane Johnson
Bill Peck
Jack & Linda Sturges
Jack & Linda Sturges

November 28

Gerrie Simmons* LSS A116
Phyllis Patterson HGreen 327
Kathy Smith TW 218
Van Luther TW 208

Barbara Hart
Sharon Passarelli
Rachel Reardon
Rachel Reardon

***No Tape - just a short visit and a bulletin**

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEED

The Christian Education Department is in desperate need of a Nursery teacher during the Sunday School hour.

And/Or

If you would be willing to be a substitute Sunday School teacher, please see George Anderson or Carm Catanese.



RECIPE from the Parish Nurse

PUMPKIN SPICE NO BAKE CHEESECAKE

7 oz. "1/3 less cream cheese"
1/2 c. pureed pumpkin (canned is fine)
1 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
1/4 c. brown sugar, unpacked
8 oz. Cool Whip Free, thawed
9 inch reduced fat graham cracker crust

In a large bowl, using an electric mixer, whip cream cheese, pumpkin, vanilla, cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice, and brown sugar for a few minutes until fluffy. Add Cool Whip and whip until smooth. Spoon mixture into pie crust and chill for a few hours, until firm.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Children's Church Program is still in need of a teacher to fill in for Kristine, whose due date is in early December. This is only a one-day-a-month commitment.

ALSO: There will be a meeting of the Children's Church teachers after worship on the 7th to plan for the holiday season.

Thea

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH TEAM

There will be an E & O meeting,
Wednesday, November 3, at 6:30.

PUMC YOUTH

Fall is in full swing, and the Youth Group has been meeting each Sunday night for tons of fun. In the midst of the silly games and tasty snacks, we've also been reading a book Jenna Lucado Bishop co-wrote with her father Max, "You Were Made to Make a Difference". Through these interesting stories, we are learning that God gifted each of us with tools we can and should be using to make a difference in the world around us every day. We're actually putting that idea into action by helping with the Food Pantry Ministry at PUMC! Twice a month, the Youth Group arranges the food on Sunday night in preparation for the ministry on Monday. Stay tuned for a picture of this chaotic process next month.

Mexican Fiesta

Please make sure you plan to attend the **Mexican Fiesta** planned for November 7 right after church. This dinner will help raise money to support the Youth in attending an annual event this Fall and some new special events in the Spring. *Cost is by donation.*

YOUTH—A LOOK AHEAD

Weekly youth meetings are held for students currently in grades 7-12. Meetings will run from 6-7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. November, December, and January dates are highlighted.

NOVEMBER

11/7 Youth Fundraising Dinner
(Mexican Fiesta!)

11/12-11/13 - Fall Retreat @ Camp Findley

11/19-11/20 - Fall Gathering @ Rochester

11/28 - No youth / Thanksgiving weekend

DECEMBER

12/5 - Youth Meeting

12/12 - Youth Meeting

12/19 - Youth attend Christmas Cantata 7 p.m.

12/26 - No youth / Christmas

JANUARY

1/2 - No Youth / New Year's

1/9 - Youth Meeting

1/16 - Youth Meeting

1/23 - Youth Worship at Frewsburg UMC 6 p.m.

1/30 - Youth Meeting

*Sincere sympathy is extended on behalf
of the PUMC community of faith to:*



The family of Joan Buckley
Mother of Debbie Loveless

The family of Larry Hine
Son of Marie Dole

The family of Gerald Simmons
Father of Carol Hay

Prayer Chain

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



Thank You

Thank you seems hardly adequate for all the prayers and support we have received over the past several weeks from our church family. We truly appreciate all the love and caring we received in the form of cards, food, flowers, visits, and words of encouragement during this very difficult time. God bless you all from the bottom of our hearts. We KNOW that He answers prayer!!

Peter and Paula Komarek

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A Christmas tree in the sanctuary in October????? This year...yes! That is the gathering spot for you to put your filled shoeboxes to be sent all over the world.

There are brochures on the welcome table which include all the information you will need to become involved in this ministry which the PUMC has been involved in for many years. Choose an age level for the child you wish to bless and simply fill a shoebox (cardboard or plastic) with items that would fill that child with excitement. Suggested items include: school supplies (crayons, markers, pencils, paper, stamps, pens...); toys (small cars, dolls, stuffed animals, musical toys, jump ropes...); hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, washcloth, bagged bar soap...); other (t-shirts, socks, ball caps, hair clips, sunglasses, toy jewelry, watches...). You may include a personal note in your box with a picture. A label from the brochure should be filled out and placed on top of the unwrapped box, along with postage for its mailing.

We are excited to have a wonderful season of giving with the opportunity to bless many children. Please feel free to ask us any questions regarding Operation Christmas Child.

Thank you for taking the time to make someone's Christmas special.

Ken and Katie Braun

COLLECTION OF SHOEBOXES
October 3 through November 14th

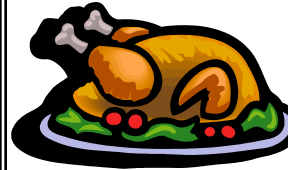
.....NURSERY NOTE.....

If you are unable to be in the nursery for your scheduled Sunday, please ask another person to switch with you. Please let me know that you have switched, too. Thank you so much for your dedication to our young children.

Tina

2010 Harvest Dinner

A MILLION thanks to all who were a part of the Harvest Dinner. From potato peeling and squash baking to pie cutting and chocolate milk pouring, everything was great. All of PUMC deserves an award for working together and having fun while serving the community as God would have us serve. Really - thank you...a million times.



Tim and Tena

Because of your faithfulness...

Because of your faithful giving, we have received a total of \$16,246.20 through October 24, 2010 for the general fund.

Additional monies received were designated as follows:

Missions	691.00
JOY Center	115.00
Camping Scholarships	30.00
Upper Room	20.96
Heart for Haiti	2,533.00
Pre-Harvest Dinner	170.00
Food Pantry	175.00
Lunch Bunch	100.00
Music Program	12.50
Fellowship Time	38.71
World Communion	130.00

We thank you for your faithful giving in support of the ministries of the Panama United Methodist Church.

Food Pantry Wish List

The Food Pantry would like to put together Thanksgiving Bags for our families in need. The following items will be needed:

- 30 cans of pumpkin for pies
- 30 ready to bake pie shells
- 30 cans of cranberry sauce
- 30 bags/boxes of stuffing mix

Please bring your donations to church by Sunday, November 14.
Packers will be needed on November 21.

Special Thanks...

*Marilyn (Jean) Vanderkooi for donating
the pretty container to gather the food pantry donations.
What a nice addition to the narthex.*

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR ETHIOPIA

Have no doubt. When PUMC is asked to do something...they respond far beyond what is asked!

When Sally Baer said she wanted 1,500 Christmas cards for the Dahley community, I knew we could gather a few hundred but you responded with nearly 1,700 and some of you wrote loving messages on them. Many thanks to everyone who contributed cards, took extra time writing on those that needed a message, and gave dollars toward the postage. A great big thank you to all...

Wyona



Here is part of the email I received from Sally in response to my telling her how many I was mailing to her. "Your email brought much joy to our family. The response from PUMC is overwhelm-ing and the prayers for each card

make them all the more blessed. We will carry each one filled with the promise of His Love to the folks of Dahley. Please pass on our deep appreciation."

Love, Tom and Sally

October 1, 2010

Dear Friends and Family,

With bittersweet emotions, we announce our departure from CSI in October. It is difficult to find the words to adequately express our appreciation for the opportunity to serve our Lord during our appointment in Haiti.

We are encouraged by the faith of the Haitians. Anyone who has been to Haiti on a mission team will agree that the Haitians are inspirational. Their faith is evident in their resiliency and their perseverance. We will hold our Haitian friends close to our hearts and in our daily prayers.

We are grateful for the friendships that we have developed, not only with the Haitians, but also, with those who have been to Haiti on short-term teams. Many lives have been changed by the experiences found in Haiti.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your generous dedication to our support. Your prayers, your time, and your resources allowed us to effectively serve. We are so grateful for the privilege of service.

Please consider continuing to support missions. The clinic will need on-going support as will other endeavors such as the Heart for Haiti campaign initiated by Allegany Region Missions (ARM). ARM is raising funds to support medical and educational programs in Haiti. (www.armissions.org for more information; mailing address for donations: PO Box 294, Randolph, NY 14722). Funds for the clinic may be forwarded to CSI.

With blessings and thanksgiving,
Bert and Roberta

*~So, then, whenever we have the opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. ~
Galatians 6:10*