

St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
626 Williams Grove Road  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
Phone: 717/766-7931

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**AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!**

## The Epistle

is a monthly publication of St. Paul's UCC.

***Comments, suggestions, and submissions are welcome!***

Worship Schedule – Two services 8:15 & 10:30 am  
Sunday School at 9:15 am Childcare available @ 10:30 am service.  
ASH Wednesday Service 7:30 pm 2/17/2010

### ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STAFF

Pastor . . . . . John J. Ward-Diorio  
Administrative Assistant . . . . . Terry Shaner  
Director of Christian Ed & Youth Advisor . . . . . Holly Yeuell  
Director of Music . . . . . Eric R. Dundore  
Choristers' Director . . . . . Jonneke A. Dundore  
Organist . . . . . Sarah A. Myers  
Assistant Organist . . . . . Patrice G. Miller  
Sexton . . . . . Michael W. Hatz  
Consistory President . . . . . Kevin B. Allison

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00 ♦ Office email: [stpaulstaff@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulstaff@verizon.net)  
Phone: 717/766-7931 John's email: [revjohnwd@verizon.net](mailto:revjohnwd@verizon.net)  
FAX: 717/766-7374 Holly's email: [ce-holly@verizon.net](mailto:ce-holly@verizon.net)  
Web Address: [www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org](http://www.saintpaulsucc-mech.org)

# The Epistle

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FEBRUARY 2010

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## FROM THE PASTOR

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you. So many of you have offered us your compassion that we have felt encircled by care, and we are very grateful.

Many of you know the feeling of loss and emptiness that occurs when one of your parents or another significant loved one dies. When my Dad died, there was an immediate sense of this and it has deepened since then. There is really nothing that can be done about those feelings, they are real and represent an appropriate response when a loved one is no longer physically present with us. For many of us (I know there are people who are estranged from their parent(s) and whose feelings will be different) our mourning and grieving process includes coming to peace with the hole in our lives created by the absence of our loved one. The hole does not go away; we find a place for it in our hearts and minds. Memories help heal the raw, rough edges around the hole, first through our tears and sadness, then through the joy and love we are reminded of.

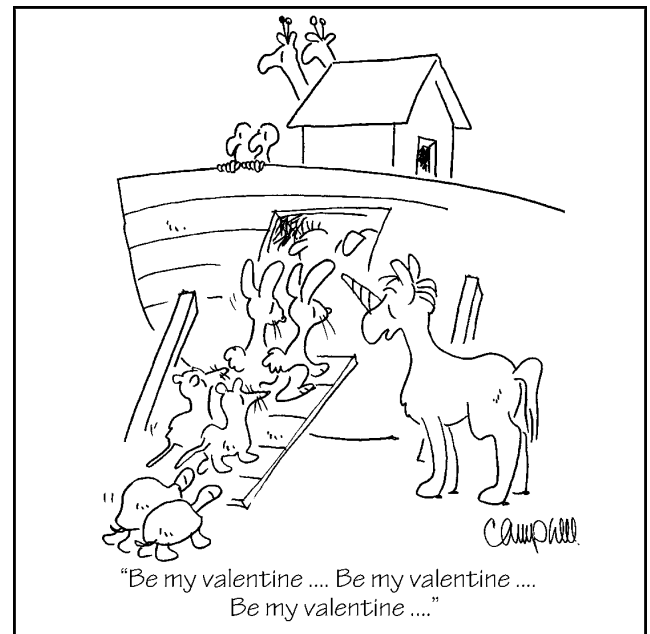
The outpouring of cards and sharing of concern helps offer some counter-balance to those feelings of loss and emptiness. Our communities cannot replace our loved one, but their compassion reminds us all is not lost and we are not alone in the world. While the sentiments in many of the cards were nice, what had the biggest impact on me were your signatures and your notes, both short and long. I would recall your faces and feel connected. Never underestimate the difference your care can make in someone's life. Your concern can be conveyed so many different ways, but the more personal, the better.

Your meals sustained us during the "time of great coughing" in the Ward-Diorio household. As you well know, when you are sick about the last

thing you feel like doing is cooking, and yet food helps fuel your body and your recovery. Food was delivered to our door (a very wise move because the germ level inside the house was off the charts). We were grateful when we received the meals; each time we heated them up and ate them; and when we were feeling full and nourished. Meals are wonderful ways of showing your concern, as there is a part of you in each serving. They offer a chance to be reminded that despite one's illness, one is still a part of a wider community that cares.

We have been well cared for. I know the good folks of St. Paul's have cared for others in like manner. And I am grateful that our community will continue to care for people in this way. Again, please accept our thanks.

Peace, John





**THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER:**

**Aggie from Michigan; Mayme Alfano** (Paula Boyer's mother); **Kevin Allison; Rev. Ken Arthur** (friend of Tom Stone); **Stacey Barnett and her infant; Lisa Benoist** (Dave Ritter's nephew's wife); **Peggy Baum; Herb Bomberger; Brenda** (friend of Dar Murphy); **Charles Breon** (step-father of Sue Miller); **Shar Briner** (sister of good friend of Susan Gabriel); **Larry Brown** (close friend of Cindy Bense); **Rev. Lila Butz; Ruth Chronister** (Ron's Mother); **Kevin Clancy** (neighbor of Chronister's); **Shannon Collins** (Ron Chronister's niece); **Cleason Cromer; Alice and Bill Crouse; Debbie** (friend of Velez's); **Ellie Deeble** (great-granddaughter of Jean Myers); **Tyler Derr** (grandson of a friend of Winnie Wentz); **Gail Diorio** (Rev. John's cousin); **Jackie Diorio** (Rev. John's mother); **Jacque & Grace Drager; Edna Dreibelbis** (Anna Burn's mother); **Pat Eakin; Ingrid Eberly; Scott Eichman** (Colleen's husband); **Stewart Emery** (Sandi Ritter-Butz's father); **Emily** (daughter of friend of Susan Gabriel); **Abby Freeland** (daughter of Assistant Principal at MASH); **Debbie and Joe Gartland; Les Gerber & Elaine McCracken; Nancy Girard** (sister of Belva Garman); **Bob & Liane Gladwin; Chuck Goodhart** (friend of Anna Thompson); **Lucy Goodridge** (Betsy Rushong's sister); **Shirley & Tom Grammer; Ken Groff; Bethany Grubbs; Shirley Harmon** (friend of Melba & Herb Bomberger); **Paul Heaney, Sr.** (Dar Murphy's dad); **Sandy Heckman; Bob Heisler; Phyllis Hershey; Travis Hessom; Sue Higgins** (friend of Anna Thompson); **Dorothy Hiltebeitel** (mother-in-law of friend of Anna Thompson); **Jim & Diane Hughes** (Jim is pastor of Grace UCC in Greencastle); **Mary Kathryn Hunt** (mother of Kimberly Leonard); **Betty Hyde; Bill Ingraham** (friend of Anna Thompson/Eric Dundore); **Alberta Jamison** (Betty Olsen's mother); **Dan Jones** (Jean and Willard's son); **Bob Kayer** (Kris Amtower's Dad); **Brian Keefer** (high-school classmate of Christy Aumiller); **Nancy Keith** (Martha and Gene's daughter); **Steven Keith** (Martha and Gene's son); **Caleb Kilgore** (brother of a co-worker of Colleen Eichman's husband); **Rev. George Klinefelter** (former pastor of St. Paul's); **Shirley Knisely; Barbara Lumby** (friend of Betsy Rushong); **Kelly MacCarthy** (Rev. John's niece); **JoEllen Reed & Robert McAleer** (former neighbors of Ward-Diorio family in Maine); **Melodie** (colleague of Randy Murphy's); **Clyde & Treva Miller; Sue & Dayne Miller; Steve Mitchell; Ally, Erin, Joan & Ernie Moyer; Jean Myers; Patricia Nalepka** (Jon

Nalepka's mother); **Nancy** (friend of the Chronister family); **Craig Parker** (Ruth Wrightstone's nephew); **Julia Paroda & Family** (friends of the Shaner/Gates Family); **Ann Patch** (friend of Ruth Wrightstone); **Dave Petko** (former co-worker of Tim Kern); **Kristen Pike** (sister-in-law of Christal Pike-Nase & Jonathan Nase); **Doris Rhoads** (Jack Rhoads' mother); **Sandy Ritter-Butz; Lynn & Bea Row** (Sue Miller's parents); **Candice Rush** (friend of Phyllis Hershey); **Irv Sanders** (Brenda Kern's father); **Helen & John Scott; Don and Peggy Seiler; Ida Shaner** (Gene Shaner's mother); **Shelly** (works with Randy Murphy); **Lisa Skinnell** (Eric Trout's step-mother); **Rena Smith; Lester Starner; Clarence Steck; Tom Stone & his family** (son of Tom and Cindy Stone); **Clyde Strock** (Becca Strock's grandfather); **Alex Szeles** (friend of Jean and Willard Jones); **Rev. Karin Stork-Whitson; Jim Sufrin** (Noel's Father); **Dave Thomas; Debra Urich** (friend of Dot and Jim Kinzer); **Kaylen Walker** (friend of Saige Sufrin); **Sue Ward** (Sue Ward-Diorio's mom); **John White; Trevor Wilkins** (Jean Myers Great Grandson); **Art & Kathy Williams; Eric Williams** (Art & Kathy's son); **Frank Williams** (friend of Tom Stone's), **Ruth Wrightstone.**

**Please also keep: All the people affected by the earthquake in Haiti; All youth and adults that are affected by the Swine Flu; All the people in the Middle East struggling for peace; All the people in the military and their families and All the people who have lost jobs and their families in your prayers.**

Please keep the office informed if there is anyone who should be added to or removed from the prayer list.

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to the Family of Mary Jane Chipriano. Mary Jane died on Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup>.

**FEBRUARY LECTIONARY TEXTS**

- 7 Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**  
Isaiah 6:1-8(9-13)      1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
Psalm 138      Luke 5:1-11
- 14 Transfiguration Sunday**  
Exodus 34:29-35      11 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Psalm 99      Luke 9:28-36
- 21 First Sunday in Lent**  
Deuteronomy 26:1-11      Romans 10:8b-13  
Psalm 91:1-2,9-16      Luke 4:1-13
- 28 Second Sunday in Lent**  
Genesis 15:1-12,17-18      Philippians 3:14,4:1  
Psalm 27      Luke 13:13-35

**FEBRUARY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

**ACOLYTES**

- 07 10:30 Jeff Dundore
- 14 8:15 Katelyn Chamberlain  
10:30 Katelyn Chamberlain
- 21 10:30 Kevin Rudisill
- 28 10:30 Kevin MacKinnon

**GREETERS**

- 07 8:15 Patrice and Greg Miller  
10:30 Kim and Jim Pirtle
- 14 8:15 Youth Sunday  
10:30 Youth Sunday
- 21 8:15 Merikay and Don Wood  
10:30 Dot and Jim Kinzer
- 28 8:15 Susan and Gerald Stada  
10:30 Pam and Allan MacKinnon

**LECTORS**

- 07 8:15 Becky Thompson  
10:30 Kevin Allison
- 14 8:15 Youth Sunday  
10:30 Youth Sunday
- 21 8:15 Tom Stone  
10:30 Rick Ayers
- 28 8:15 Cindy Stone  
10:30 Dennis Plymette

**Head Usher: Kevin Allison**

**USHERS**

- 07 8:15 & 10:30 Consistory
- 14 8:15 Youth Sunday  
10:30 Youth Sunday
- 21 8:15 Cindy and Tom Stone  
10:30 Joan and Jim Quick  
Karen and Kevin Allison
- 28 8:15 Betty and Tom Olsen  
10:30 Bonnie and Dennis Plymette  
Winnie and Darryl Wentz

**FLOWER DELIVERY**

- 07 Merikay and Don Wood
- 14 Betsy Rushong
- 21 Cindy and Dick Bensel
- 28 Winnie and Darryl Wentz

**COMMUNION PREP**

- 07 Lois Ritter and Kimberli Nalepka
- 17 Rhoda and Ned Rupp



- 07 - 8:15 am Chancel Choir  
10:30 am Youth Choir
- 14 - 8:15 am Handchimes  
10:30 am Youth and Choristers
- 17 7:30 pm Chancel Choir
- 21 -10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 28- 10:30 am Youth Choir

**Church Directory Updates:  
Bill and Alice Crouse (through April 19)  
121 SW South River Dr, Unit 207  
Stuart FL 34997**

**Megan Kern  
4395 W 139<sup>th</sup> St.  
Cleveland OH 44135**

**Jean Mogel (through April)  
2008 Hereford Dr  
Sun City Center FL 33573**

**Kathy and Art Williams  
773 Glen Arden Dr  
Lewisberry PA 17339**



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 01 Thomas Stone                                     | 19 Frances Wolford                          |
| 02 Katelyn Costello<br>Lauren Costello              | 20 Zach Davinroy<br>Karin Stork-Whitson     |
| 05 Bill Sizemore                                    | 21 Cathy Thomas                             |
| 06 Anna Thompson                                    | 22 Jane Hall                                |
| 09 Beth Pirtle                                      | Jonathan Nase                               |
| 10 Doug Jacobsen<br>Barbara Westhafer               | 23 Scott Thompson<br>24 Matthew Paulus      |
| 13 Pat Eakin  | 25 Christine Aumiller<br>Emily Klein        |
| 14 Dave Ritter<br>Jason Till                        | 27 Allyssa Lingenfelter<br>Philip Nase      |
| 16 Charles Miller                                   | Michael Shea<br>Cheryl Simpson              |
| 17 Molly Cowan<br>Rachel Drazba<br>Elaine McCracken | 29 Tristan Colestock<br>Allan MacKinnon Jr. |
| 19 Wyatt Paulus                                     |   |



- 01 Alice and Bill Crouse
- 05 Joan and Jim Quick
- 08 Peggy and Fred Briggs

## **CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS – January 19,**

**2010 Christian Education Council** – Randy Murphy- there will be a meeting of the council after the 10:30 service on 1/31, with the immediate goal of selecting curriculum to be used for VBS. There will also be a discussion on how best provide an informal sounding board for Holly. Holly has previous experience with “safe church” practices for working with youth and volunteers, it is hoped that she will be able to bring her knowledge and expertise to St. Paul’s as we consider our own “safe church” policies and procedures. **Called to Care** – Rev. John reported that the most recent training program began in January. **Pastor’s Report** – Rev. John – December was a very busy month. The Choral program was well received even with the challenge of bad weather. Christmas Eve services went very well and were well supported by current and past Consistory members for Communion and other duties. There was a memorial service for a member and two baptisms. Rev. John wishes to thank Anna Thompson and Bryan Medkeff—Rose for their assistance while he was away and then ill. In Jan., the annual pork and sauerkraut dinner and the recognition of 50-year members occurred on 1/17/10. There continues to be reorganization of the Chancel Committee with an upcoming meeting on 1/27. The Worship Committee has some new agenda items they will consider. Mercersburg Assn. activity included presentation of a new Penn Central staffing proposal for feedback. We will also follow up on inviting a Penn Central staff member to come to St. Paul’s to discuss the status of the “4 Our Churches” campaign. Finally, with regrets, Rev. John reported that Tom and Sharon Herrold have chosen to move their church membership to an inner city church in Harrisburg in order to fulfill their desire to be a part of a church program that is truly in need of their assistance, talents, and energy. **Old Business** – Head Usher Duties revisions were distributed by Shirley Keith Knox. **New Business** – Dave Ritter came to the meeting to discuss his proposal and need for a computer server. He discussed the advantages of a server, the liabilities we face without a proper back-up system, and what we would need to do if we followed a

back-up procedure using an external hard drive. The way the computer system is used right now, all users work off of the data stored on Terry’s computer. A server would eliminate this potentially unstable operating procedure. While Consistory understands the need for a more secure data system, there still was uncertainty as to the priority of a server in the overall capital needs of the church. A motion was made that Consistory send the server proposal to the property committee for consideration, and that they come up with a prioritized list of the capital needs of the church before the proposal comes back to consistory. **New Hope Ministries** – has asked St. Paul’s if we might be able to create a cash fund to help them buy perishable items such as milk, eggs and butter. **Pictorial Directory** – As there have been many new members in the past few years, it seems time to explore a new church pictorial directory. **Personal Care Kits** – request to coordinate the assembly of personal care kits to give to Church World Services for their disaster relief teams in Haiti. **Marriage Equality Programs-** Mercersburg Assn Open and Affirming Initiative will be sponsoring 2 educational programs on marriage equality on Feb 13 & 14. **St Paul’s at Wedding Show** as part of our radio ad package in the late fall; Shirley Keith Knox will be our representative at an upcoming wedding planning show in Harrisburg. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

**2010 Officers:** President–Kevin Allison; Secretary– Kathy Williams; Vice President–Randy Murphy; Treasurer–Dave Hall

### **2010 Committee Liaisons**

Bazaar Committee-Susan Williams; Called to Care Committee-Michael Gray; Christian Education Council-Randy Murphy; Day Care Committee-Dennis Plymette; Extended Ministries Council-Shirley Keith Knox; Finance /Auditing/Endowment Committee-Kevin Allison; Parish Ministries Council-Bruce Perry; Pastor Parish Relations Committee-Rick Ayers; Property Committee-Bill Cashman; Stewardship Council–Kathy Williams; Worship Committee-Herb Sutton and Youth Ministries Council–Dick Bensel.

**MAY WE HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE... United Church of Christ Homes** is pleased to inform your congregation that our 2009 Helping Hands Dinner & Auction raised over **\$19,700 for the Benevolent Endowment Trust Fund.**

Thanks to your support of UCC Homes, residents of UCC Homes who are unable to pay for the cost of their care and who do not have access to governmental assistance programs will be able to receive financial aid for years and years to come.

The Board of Directors and the Special Events Committee of UCC Homes encourage your congregation to support our **15th Helping Hands Dinner & Auction to be held on MAY 1, 2010** at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East in one or more of the following ways:

- Gather items relating to a specific theme and make a gift basket to be auctioned at the 2010 event
- Serve on the Special Events Committee (contact Victoria at (717) 303-1502 if you're interested)
- Attend the May 1, 2010 Helping Hands Dinner & Auction to be held at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East.

**Thanks again for your interest and support of UCC Homes**

***For further information on the 2010 Helping Hand Dinner & Auction or to inquire about making a contribution, please contact the Development Office at (717) 303-1502.***



**If you have hugs to spare, consider sponsoring a child through the Global**

Ministries Child Sponsorship Program, a global children's ministry of the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). **THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE**

**2010 CHILD SPONSORSHIPS** is on the bulletin board in the Common. The cost for a child in 2010 will be \$30.00 per child per month. Payment should be made no later than the month you are sponsoring the child. Please make your check out to St. Paul's UCC or place the cash in an envelope with your name and child sponsorship on it and place in offering plate or drop off in the Church office. Thank you in advance for sponsoring a child who has so little.



**THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE 2010 ALTAR FLOWERS** is on the bulletin board in the Common area.

Please neatly fill in the information as you want it printed in the Worship Bulletin or call your information into the church office. The price for the altar flowers is \$32.00. Payment should be made no later than the Sunday you are sponsoring the Altar Flowers. Please make your check out to St. Paul's UCC or place the cash in an envelope with your name and altar flowers on it and place in offering plate or drop off in the Church office. Following worship these flowers are taken by volunteers to the ill, shut-in's or to other appropriate places. In this manner, the flowers continue their silent reminder of God's love. Thank you in advance for providing flowers for the Altar of St. Paul's.

**Open Your ♥'s for the People of Haiti –** Donations of personal care items are needed for "Personal Care Kits." Your donations will be sent to Haitians in desperate need of even the most basic of items. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Commons. Just write your name in the box of the item you can supply. All donations are needed by February 14<sup>th</sup>. Items needed for each kit are: 1 hand towel, 1 washcloth, 1 large sturdy comb, 1 nail file or finger nail clippers (no emery board or toe nail clippers), 1 bath sized bar of soap, 1 single packed toothbrush (no child size), Band-aids and \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste. Any questions see Kathy Aumiller or Shirley Keith Knox.



### CAKE DONATIONS NEEDED:

For the past few years, there has been a group of ladies from St Paul's who have been baking cakes (9x13) for Mechanicsburg Meals on Wheels. This is done on the 4th Monday of each month. As the number of clients getting meals grows we need to increase the number of cakes that we provide each month. Currently there are 7 ladies on the volunteer list. It would be nice if we had 5 more ladies or MEN sign up to donate cakes. If we had 12 or more volunteers that would mean each person would bake a cake every other month. If interested please call Joanne Miller @ 697.9620 or email [jmiller.1938@verizon.net](mailto:jmiller.1938@verizon.net).



**Handyman Needed**

**HANDYMAN WANTED:** to repair/replace vanity located between classroom 1 and 3. Please see/call Don Wood 761-3036 if you can help out with this effort. We will furnish the parts you provide the labor.

**Do you shop at Giant?** If so, please consider buying **Giant Gift Cards from the Youth Group**. The Youth Group earns \$25.00 for every \$500.00 in gift cards they sell. What do you get? If you purchase a \$50.00 gift card, it costs you \$50.00 and you can use it for \$50.00 in Giant. You do earn bonus points when you shop with a gift card. See Mary Runkle if you would like to purchase.



St. Paul's Prayer Shawl Ministry

### **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** - The February meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held the 2nd

Tuesday, February 9 at 1 pm in the parlor. Prayer Shawls will be blessed at both services on February 21st.



### **February 14th**

**On Youth Sunday**, February 14, we will kick off a special giving opportunity to enable members of our congregation to attend Hartman Center summer camp programs. Hartman Center is our UCC Penn Central Conference Outdoor Ministries and Retreat Center located 20 miles below State College in Milroy, PA. Throughout the summer, programs are offered for all ages, including Family, Grandparent/Child, and Adult camps, in addition to those geared to Youth. There is something for everyone!

A special offering to go towards offsetting the costs of camp will be accepted from February 14th through March 28th. Specially marked envelopes will be available in the pews. Just place them in the offering plates with checks made payable to St. Paul's UCC.

**Also** -- don't miss a special Hartman Center-style breakfast in Fellowship Hall in place of the 9:15 Sunday School hour on February 14. Information about camps at Hartman Center will also be available. If you have any questions, please contact Jonneke Dundore, St. Paul's Hartman Center advocate.



February 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM  
Pew Communion

## LENTEN READING SERIES

### IS OUR CHURCH BUILDING ACCESSIBLE? Help us find out on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>!

St. Paul's has made a number of adjustments in our parking and facilities to allow better access for people with physical disabilities. We have designated parking spaces, designated seating in our sanctuary, and added automatic doors to enter the bathrooms to make our building accessible. We recognize that accessibility applies not only to persons with physical and mobility limitations, but also to those of hearing and sight and mental abilities. With this in mind, we need to ask ourselves have we done enough? Is there more that we can do to better welcome members, guests and visitors with disabilities?

On Sunday, February 21st, a small group of folks will be conducting an Accessibility Audit of our church. This accessibility audit is designed to help us analyze our church facilities, and our methods of communication and attitudes. The results of the audit will help us identify barriers that can cause persons with disabilities to be excluded from full participation in worship and other congregational activities. Realizing that the goal of full accessibility is a continuing process, this audit of our building and communications will be a starting point for working towards greater accessibility.

If this is an issue of interest to you, please join us on Sunday, February 21st to complete the church audit. We will meet immediately following the 10:30 am service and expect to complete our work by mid afternoon. A lite lunch will be served.

RSVP to Shirley Keith Knox at 697-6946 or at [skeithknox@comcast.net](mailto:skeithknox@comcast.net). Questions: See Shirley Keith Knox or Dennis Plymette.

The Pollyanna's will meet at 1 pm on Tuesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> at Mary Louise Miller's home. Please remember donations for the soldier's care package. Any questions call Mary Louise at 766-8425.



During Advent this past year we read and discussed The First Christmas by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Our group very much enjoyed what we talked about and learned, and asked to do something similar around the topic of Easter.

For Lent then, we will read and discuss The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Final Days in Jerusalem, also by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. The book is divided into eight chapters, with each chapter devoted to what the different Gospels say happened on that day, beginning with Palm Sunday and ending with Easter. We will discover that sometimes the Gospels will have similar accounts and sometimes not. We will talk about why that is true and what it might have meant for the writers and early listeners, and what it might mean for us today. This is an opportunity to delve deeper into Holy Week, taking time to talk over stories we have heard many times but perhaps have not had the chance to discuss.

We will meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. We will begin meeting on February 25 and conclude on March 25 (though sometimes we decide to add extra day(s)). The meetings will last between 1 1/2 to 2 hours. We will have a prayer and silent meditation time at the beginning, check-in, discussion, check-out and prayer. It will be a good idea to bring your Bible each week. Any translation is fine. The book itself lists for about \$14.00, but we can get it at a discount if we order through the church. There will be a sign-up sheet posted in the Common Area, and you can mark if you would like us to order a copy. I would like to place the order by February 11<sup>th</sup>. I have a copy of the book already, for anyone who would like to see it ahead of time.

I believe this will be a very interesting and fruitful discussion. I hope to see you there. Any questions, please do not hesitate to speak with me, or call, or email. Thanks. Peace, John

On Sunday, **March 28** at 7:00 PM our Chancel Choir along with the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Chancel Choir will present **Requiem by John Rutter** at the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church. The choirs will be accompanied by a small chamber orchestra and will be directed by Eric Dundore. For six years these two choirs have joined together to present a concert of Lenten music and the choirs are again excited about preparing this work for the community of Mechanicsburg.



**Donna and I want to express our gratitude** for the beautiful altar flowers and the many cards and messages we received following the death of my father. It is a great comfort to know that we are part of a large, caring family. Words are inadequate to express how deeply we appreciate the prayers that have sustained us during this time. Ron and Donna Chronister

*Your Kindness is Greatly Appreciated* – **Thank you so much** for the prayer shawl. It really means a lot to me and I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Please extend a Hello and Thank You to the Prayer Shawl crew. I miss you all very much. Gail Parthree.

**Dear Rev. John and All St. Paul's** – Thank You for the cards and for making My 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday special. Especially the great dinner and I believe we have been here for 50 years. Thank you so much, Rev. John for delivering a delicious birthday dinner and the visit on a gloomy day. We are so blessed, with all our friends at St. Paul's. Thanks again Peggy Seiler & Don too!

**Dear Ladies**, especially Sharon Herrold: Thanks for the beautiful Prayer Shawl. It is lovely. It was given to me January 11<sup>th</sup> when they took me to and from chemo treatment. I just want to thank you for the shawl and the Prayers also. What you do is really appreciated. (This is a Thank You from a recipient of a Pink Prayer Shawl that the Prayer Shawl Ministry gave to "Hearts-n-Hands" a local Sertoma club)

**I would like to thank the congregation, Called to Care and Pastor John** for the flowers, cards, prayers, well wishes and visit during my recent surgery. Although on restrictions for the next two months, I am feeling better each day. It is comforting and healing to have such love and support, not only in a time of special need, but always." Herb Bomberger

On Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup>, we were treated to a delicious pork and sauerkraut dinner. On this day we honored those persons who have already or will obtain the membership status of at least 50 years in the year 2010! Those members and the date they joined:

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Mary Jane Chipriano   | March 21, 1937     |
| Grace Cocklin         | March 24, 1929     |
| Phyllis K. Hershey    | September 24, 1950 |
| Albert Huebner        | November 11, 1956  |
| Betty J. Hyde         | November 16, 1951  |
| John Knisely          | February 10, 1957  |
| Shirley Knisely       | February 10, 1957  |
| Raymond Krouch        | April 24, 1955     |
| Mary Louise Miller    | March 25, 1945     |
| Ned M. Rupp           | April 3, 1955      |
| Carolyn S. Rutherford | October 30, 1955   |
| Donald Seiler         | November 6, 1960   |
| Margaret Seiler       | November 6, 1960   |
| Linda J Shea          | March 22, 1959     |
| Rena B. Smith         | March 29, 1931     |
| Lester Starner        | October 30, 1955.  |

**Our Thanks** go out to those who prepared, served and cleaned up in the Kitchen after this delicious meal: **Jack Rhoads, Barrett Rhoads, Jason Rhoads, Shelly Rhoads, Carol Rhoads, Welsey Rhoads, Tim Kern, Dayne Miller, Shannon Trout, Ernie Moyer, Patrice Miller, Greg Miller, Clayton Pirtle and Beth Pirtle and to those who helped clean up the tables afterward: Rebecca Scott, Dennis and Bonnie Plymette, Patty and Dave Scott** and to those who brought in the cakes we enjoyed for dessert.

**Check out our new mailbox.** Our previous mailbox was slowly falling and rusting apart. **Our Thanks** go out to **Don Wood** for installing the new mailbox.

**Our Thanks** go out to the **Consistory Members** who serve our Congregation all year long and to those retiring this year; **Susan Gabriel, Patrice Miller and Don Wood.**