



PEACE NOTES



March

Peace United Church of Christ, 37 East Swartzville Road, Denver, PA 17517

PASTOR'S PAGE

We are about to enter the season of Lent – a time of reflection and repentance. So what I am offering here are a few thoughts on repentance, something to reflect on as together we journey through the Lenten Season. As we reflect on these thoughts, let us remember that the end goal of repentance is forgiveness

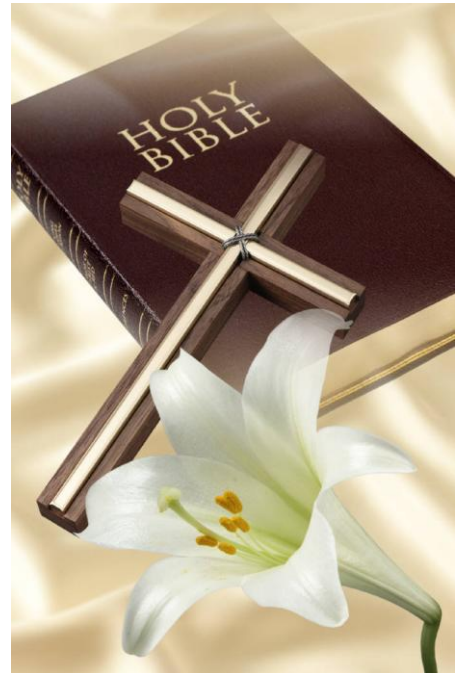
In Shakespeare's Hamlet, Claudius kills his brother the King in order to have the throne and the queen. He cannot repent, because to repent would mean that he must give up the throne – which he cannot and will not do. Forgiveness eludes him because try as he might to repent, he cannot. His repentance is never genuine, and therefore he will never receive or experience forgiveness. *Are there times in our lives when our repentance is not genuine and forgiveness eludes us?*

Elie Wiesel wrote: When God created us, God gave Adam a secret – and that secret was not how to begin but how to begin **again** – In other words, it is not given to us to begin; that privilege is God's alone. But it is given to us to begin again – and we do every time we choose to defy death and side with the living. *Every time we repent we are forgiven and every time we are forgiven we begin again.*

From Soren Kierkegaard: One can tell the age of a tree by looking at its bark. One can also tell a person's age by the intensity and inwardness of his repentance. It may be said of a dancer that her time is past when her youth is gone, but not so with the penitent. Repentance, if it is forgotten, is nothing but immaturity. The longer and more deeply one treasures repentance, the better it becomes. *How deeply do we treasure this great gift?*

In this season of Lent may our hearts be open before God, our repentance be genuine and our forgiveness full and complete!

Pastor Bill



► Check it out!

To e-mail the pastor, use

pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org

To e-mail items to the secretary, use

secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org

Church Council Officers

2014

John Haldeman, *Council President*
Bobbi Porter-Kunkel, *Council Vice-President*
Bev Madara, *Council Secretary*
Margaret Harting, *Financial Secretary*
Mike Madara, *Treasurer*
Jack Bernsel, *Administrator*

ELDERS

John Haldeman484-2510
Bobbi Porter-Kunkel.....610-678-0543
Bev Madara.....484-0895
Vicki Garner-Sweigart.....336-2307
Pat Hall.....484-4658
Jill Kegerise.....336-2421

DEACONS

Cindy Anthony.....335-2643
Vaye Freeman.....445-7601
Fran Hollen.....725-0751
Janice Kohl.....391-2890
Amy Miller.....484-1948
Nancy Reese.....484-4659
Vicky Schweitzer.....808-9823
Pat Wolf.....336-2272

HEAD USHER

Bobbi Porter-Kunkel

ALTAR GUILD

Edie Graff
Dixie Schweitzer

GREETERS

March 2 Cliff and Audrey Youndt
March 5 Vicki Garner-Sweigart
March 9 Girl Scout Sunday
March 16 George and Eleanor Bailey
March 23 Matt and Mark Anthony
March 30 Bruce and Kathy Palsgrove

ALTAR FLOWERS

March 2 Mrs. Richard L. Fisher
March 9 Robert and Beverly Martin
March 16 Betty Leisey
March 23 Robert Fichthorn
March 30 Mildred Krick



The deadline for submitting articles for the April issue of Peace Notes is March 20th. Please put your information in the hanging folder labeled "Peace Notes" located on the Secretary's desk or email it to:

secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org

Thank you!

Note: This email address can also be used for information to be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

Thank You's

We just wanted to take time to remember everyone in our church family that takes time to remember us and all of the other homebound members throughout the year. The cards, visits and phone calls mean a lot to us and we are thankful to those who stop by to say hello. May the simple joys and blessings you share with others be returned to you throughout the year.

Marvin & Kathryn Fitterling

Dear Friends,
Please let me thank everyone for your thinking of me.

Betty Seicio

Thank you to Pastor Bill and Janis, for taking the time to stop and see me at Johns Hopkins, on the way back from their vacation. I had a setback and was recovering from pneumonia.

Terry Fasnacht

We offer a special thank you to everyone who in some way contributed to the beginnings of our new Contemporary Styled Worship Service!!!! We will continue to offer this service and ask that you hold it in your prayers as together we strive to serve God as one Congregation offering thanks and praise to God in two distinct manners. Also please let your friends know of this new service at Peace Church. Again – thank you to all!!!

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Wednesday evening Lenten Services begin on March 5th. Our theme this year is **Affirming the Ash Heap**. We will look at the struggles and suffering we encounter in life and discover God's presence in the midst of it. This will be done as we explore and compare the lives of Job and Jesus. Our schedule this year is as follows:

- March 5th – Peace United Church of Christ
Craig Snow – Ash Wednesday
- March 12th – Trinity United Methodist
David Brumbaugh

March Birthdays

- March 1 Lois Haldeman
- March 4 Heidi Sunday
- March 5 Allen Garner
Susan McIlmoyle
- March 6 Stephanie Shahade
Olivia Moyer
Alicia Getz
- March 8 Karen Sweigart
- March 10 Kathy Strunk
- March 12 Ann Englert
Cindy Anderson
- March 13 Pat Hall
- March 14 Bertha Adair
Ralph Good
Betty Schweitzer**
- March 15 Melissa Burky
Allyson Butz
- March 17 Daniel Wolf
- March 18 Karen Pannebecker
- March 19 Tracy Althouse
- March 20 Maxine Burky
- March 26 Stacy Burkey
- March 28 **Arlene Styer****
Virginia Tobias
- March 30 **Gene Huston****
Ell Mae Shupp
- March 31 Dan Hall

** Special Care and Concern Member

Please remember these members with a card that can be placed in the birthday box in the Narthex



March Anniversaries

- March 4 Brian and Susan Strouse
- March 8 Jay and Stacy Burkey
- March 16 Paul and Elizabeth Freeman
- March 17 Don and Sue Calhoon

March 19th – St. John’s United Church of Christ
Phil Horning
March 26th – Swamp Christian Fellowship
Bill Hoch
April 2nd – Gehman’s Mennonite Church
Mike Roney

HEALTH AND WELFARE NEWS

The Health and Welfare Committee will once again be offering funeral lunches at the request of the family.

Next Health and Welfare Meeting will be Saturday March 1st at 10:00 am in the church council room.

PEACE CHURCH’S ANNUAL EGG HUNT

When: Saturday April 12th, 2014 at 10:00 am.

This is a rain or shine event and everyone is welcome! A light lunch will be provided to everyone after the hunt. Hope to see you there. Any questions contact Barb Becker at 738-1856.

PEACE PANTRY

For March the Peace Pantry will be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild will be taking orders for Easter Lilies on Sunday, March 30th and April 6th and 13th before and after worship. The cost is \$7.50 for a 5-6 bloom plant. The Easter Lilies will be in the church sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 20th and should be taken home after the service.

IT’S A REDNECK MYSTERY DINNER!!

The youth would like to invite everyone to their REDNECK Mystery Dinner on March 22, 2014 at 5pm. Ever wonder what a mystery dinner is? It is 4 courses of delicious food, wonderful fellowship, and lots of laughs. We are asking everyone to either sign up on the sheet on the secretary’s window or email youth@peaceunitedchurch.org with your name and how many will be attending. The cost of the meal is a donation to go towards the NYC mission trip. So dust off your camouflage and flannel shirts and come join us at the REDNECK Mystery Dinner.

PEANUT BUTTER EGGS

The youth will be making peanut butter eggs on April 5th at 9:00 am. We plan to make almost 2000 eggs. Everyone is welcome to come and help make the eggs. Orders for the eggs can be place on the sign up sheet on the secretary’s window or they can be emailed to youth@peaceunitedchurch.org. The cost of a 1 pound box is \$6.00.

SAVE THE DATE

The annual CHICKEN BBQ will be held April 26th. Tickets are now available. See any youth member.

Half a chicken-\$6
Chicken Dinner-\$9

The dinner includes a baked potato, coleslaw, roll and butter.

**PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COUNCIL MEETING
February 11, 2014**

Attendees: Pastor Bill Hoch, John Haldeman, Bobbi Porter-Kunkle, Mike Madara, Bev Madara, Cindy Anthony, Vicki Garner-Sweigart, Pat Wolf, Pat

Hall, Vaye Freeman, Janice Kohl, Jill Kegerise, Ben Kegerise, Nancy Reese, Amy Miller and Vickie Schweitzer.

Excused: Fran Hollen, Jack Bernstel.

President John Haldeman brought the council meeting of Peace United Church of Christ to order on Tuesday, February 11, 2014. Pastor Bill started the meeting off with devotions and prayer.

Review of last month's minutes – Vicki Garner-Sweigart made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Pat Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Giving was lower than budgeted for January by about \$3,200 and Expenses were a little higher because of a lawn mowing bill from Green Lawn for last year which was just received and the exterminator bill was paid for the year to save some money. Mike will be presenting two proposals from Mike Weinhold at the March Benevolence meeting. The general fund loan balance is down to \$4,000. Jill Kegerise made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented and Cindy Anthony seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Account Balances as of 01/31/2014	January
Funds Summary	Ending Balance
Checking Account	\$1,514.56
Money Market	(\$2, 987.19)
General Fund (combined)	(\$1,472.63)
General Fund Investment(12mon cd)	\$5,035.15
Memorial Fund (MMA)	\$6, 182.85
Youth Fund (MMA)	\$527.00
Capital Campaign (MMA) \$78,405.96	\$2, 210.00
Petty Cash	\$75.00
Account Balances	\$12,557.37
Capital Improvement Checking	\$2,190.72

Capital Improvement Liquid CD	\$16,021. 03
Capital Improve Fund Total	\$18,211.75
Endowment Check (restricted use)	\$9,836.35
Endowment Liquid CD (restricted use)	\$26,045.80
Endowment CDs (restricted use)	\$102,052.16
Endowment MS Money Market (restricted use)	\$131,002.01
Endowment MS Stocks (restricted)	\$8,273.65
Endowment MS Mutual Funds (restricted use)	\$28,095.67
Endowment Fund Total	\$305,305.64
Total Funds Balance	\$336,074.76
General Fund Loan Balance	\$4,000.00

Administrator's Report – There was a power outage at the church. Jack Bernstel checked to make sure everything was working properly afterwards and he reset the timers on the parking lot lights. Jim Anthony checked to make sure the sound system was working properly as well.

Pastor's Report – The student fair at the seminary is February 25th from 4-6 pm. Courtney Hall will be going along with Pastor Bill to talk to the students.

A flyer was placed in the Shopping News advertising our new contemporary service and it went out to 9000 households. 18 people attended the 1st contemporary service.

Pastor Bill will be writing a series of articles that will appear in the Ephrata Review and the Grapevine talking about the trends in church, such as declining attendance, and how to counteract these trends. We are looking into getting these articles in the Lancaster and Reading papers as well.

Children and Youth Ministry Report – The Lenten Project will support Family Village Farm in India which is part of the UCC mission and ministry. When you adopt a child, part of the money that is received for that child is put in a savings account for them and when they finish their time on the farm learning a trade they can use that money to buy supplies for them to continue working in that trade. Our goal is \$525. For this we will provide renovation for a bathroom and food for three housing units.

Vacation Bible School will be held June 22nd – 26th. The curriculum comes from Standard Publishing House and the theme will be Jungle Adventure. We will need volunteers to teach, do crafts, games, music and food. The next joint meeting will be held on March 4th at 7 pm.

Spiritual Council Report - A thank-you message will be placed in the bulletin and newsletter to thank all those who helped get the contemporary service running. Thank-you cards will be sent to the anonymous donator and the person who built the stage.

Head ushers and altar guild members must make sure the candles are extinguished after the service since there are no acolytes.

Budget and Finance Report – Did not meet.

Benevolence Committee Report - Did not meet.

Stewardship Committee Report - Did not meet, but there was a joint planning meeting. The meeting was a success, with a lot of ideas shared about increasing church attendance.

1. There will be articles placed in newspapers and Peace Notes.
2. Handwritten cards will be sent to long term inactive members.
3. Short term inactive members will be contacted by phone.
4. We need to reach out to those people that we have already lost and let them know we are thinking about them and they are welcome to come back if they are not happy where they are.
5. We want to make sure that those people who lost a spouse are still comfortable coming to

church alone and that they have a ride if needed.

6. Unfamiliar people in church must be approached and greeted.
7. We will continue to support the contemporary service.
8. Business card magnets will be added to the visitor's packets and sent to the long term inactive members.

Adult Ministry Report - Did not meet.

Health and Welfare Report – A tentative date of May 17th has been set for the spring program at Colonial Lodge. Health and Welfare Sunday will be May 4th and the topic will be Homes of Hope. They will be making butterflies for the spring gifts. Health and Welfare will be providing funeral luncheons again.

Outreach Report – No report.

Altar Guild Report – February's food pantry items will go to the Ephrata Area Social Services and the requested items are pasta, boxed potatoes and saltine crackers. Margaret Harting has asked that the money in memory of Bill be designated to the choirs. Maxine Burky requested that the money in memory of Ron be designated to the work crew.

Youth Report – The youth will be hosting a red-neck mystery dinner on March 22nd. They will be making Easter peanut butter eggs on April 5th at 9 am. The chicken barbeque will be held on April 26th.

Old Business – None.

New Business – Fellowship hour will now be held in the room next to the choir room.

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014. Being no further business, Vicki Garner-Sweigart motioned to adjourn and seconded by Cindy Anthony. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Bev Madara
Council Secretary

March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10 am Health and Welfare Meeting Nancy Reese
2 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Traditional Worship 10:45 am Contemporary Worship Dale & Donna Reinhart	3 7 pm Benevolence Committee Margaret Robinson	4 1 pm No Bible Study 7 pm VBS Planning Meeting Clara Roland	5 7 :30 pm Ash Wednesday Service Fred & Sally Romich	6 7 pm No Choir Carol Sanders	7 Matt & Kendra Sauder	8 Allen & Cheryl Schlouch
9 9 am Sunday School Childrens Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Traditional Worship - Girl Scout Sunday 10:45 am Contemporary Worship Harvey & Esther Schlouch	10 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal Betty Schweitzer	11 1 pm Bible Study 6:30p Spiritual Council 7p Church Council Daniel Schweitzer	12 7:30 pm Lenten Service – Trinity UMC Dixie Schweitzer	13 7 pm Choir Rehearsal Eric Schweitzer	14 Jane Schweitzer	15 Betty Seiscio
16 8 am Children’s Ministry 9 am Sunday School Childrens Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Traditional Worship 10:45 am Contemporary Worship Andrew & Stephanie Shahade	17 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal Mary Shober	18 1 pm Bible Study Keith & Linda Shollenberger	19 7:30 pm Lenten Service – St. John’s UCC Hans Shollenberger	20 7 pm Choir Rehearsal Myles Shollenberger	21 Ella Mae Shupp	22 5 pm youth Redneck Mystery Dinner Ernest Shupp
23 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Traditional Worship 10:45 am Contemporary Worship Oliver & Mary Lou Simmons	24 Robert & Beth Sipe	25 1 pm No Bible Study Frederick Stauffer	26 7:30 pm Lenten Service – Swamp Christian Fellowship Randy Stauffer	27 7 pm Choir Rehearsal Mary Jane Steely	28 Mike & Bobbe Jo Steffy	29 Willie Stober
30 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Traditional Worship 10:45 am Contemporary Worship Ed Stork	31 Brian & Susan Strouse	Frederick Stauffer	Randy Stauffer	Mary Jane Steely	Mike & Bobbe Jo Steffy	Willie Stober

PEACE NOTES

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37 East Swartzville Road
Denver, PA 17517

Return Service Requested

March Events

March 5th – Ash Wednesday Service – 7:30 pm.
March 22nd – Youth Redneck Mystery Dinner - 5:00 pm.

Peace United Church of Christ
37 East Swartzville Road
Denver, PA 17517
(717-484-4400)

pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Rev. William E. Hoch, Pastor
(717-335-0387)

Beverly Madara, Editor
secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org
(717-484-0895)