



People's to People
The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ
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FEBRUARY 2010

Under the Bell Tower

LENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 17

“Lent” (Anglo-Saxon “lengten,” to lengthen daylight, “spring”) begins February 17. Excluding the Sundays, there are 40 days of Lent—like the 40 days Jesus fasted and prayed in the wilderness after his baptism (Luke 4:1-13). From ancient times Christians have joined Jesus in his fast during the season of Lent, making it a traditional time for the examination of our lives, repentance and renewal in preparation for the day we will celebrate the resurrection—Easter.

Traditions crumble, don't they! We Protestants eat together a lot during Lent, instead of fasting. Where two or three are gathered together, somebody brought something to eat. And that's exactly what we're going to do again this Lenten season. The various boards of the church have divided up the Wednesdays of the season, and each board will provide a light supper at 6:00 each Wednesday evening. Then will follow one of the most interesting and inspiring Lenten Study series you've ever participated in.

I'm really very enthusiastic about it. Two Methodist pastors in Phoenix, Arizona, Jeff Procter-Murphy and Dave Felten couldn't find a practical tool for their adult education program—so they wrote one. In fact, now they have several out. The series is called “Living the Questions,” and the specific series we will be using in this year's Lenten Study is titled **Saving Jesus**. Jeff and Dave ask, “Do you ever feel as if Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right?” The DVD-based program includes interview segments from some of the most widely read mainline and Catholic writers of our time, such as: Marcus Borg, Amy-Jill Levine, Hans Küng, Rita Nakashima-Brock, Helen Prejean, and Walter Brueggemann. There will be hand-outs, but no book to try to keep up with the readings—all the input will be shown on DVD, and there will be plenty of discussion.



I hope you will come and participate in this year's Lenten Study. It's going to be great!

-Dan

EIGHTH LENTEN ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

A half-hour concert each Thursday Noon during Lent
Featuring some of the best organists in central Delaware

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH
JANUARY 31, 2010**

Annual Church Budgeted Income	\$200,100
Income Weekly	3,848
Budgeted Income to Date	11,382
Income Received to Date	11,650
Budget Expenses to Date	<u>- 17,695</u>
Net Difference	\$ - 6,045

ATTENDANCE FOR JANUARY

	2009	2010		offerings
01/04	103	01/03	88	2,049.85
01/11	124	01/10	123	2,582.25
01/18	117	01/17	126	2,536.00
01/25	128	01/24	132	4,166.00
02/01	<u>115</u>	01/31	<u>0</u>	Snowed
	587		469	\$11,334.10

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/01	John Downs, Sr.
02/01	John Paradee
02/01	Kevin Salmon
02/02	Zachary Davis
02/02	Ethan Paradee
02/02	Chloe Hannah
02/03	Louise Warfield
02/03	Glenn Boehmer
02/04	James L. Baker
02/05	Mary Cooke
02/05	Margaret Nelson
02/06	Renee Lindsey
02/07	Dan Griggs
02/07	Cheryl Goldsmith
02/07	Virginia Bason
02/10	Leonard Guth
02/13	Suzanne Hotchkiss
02/15	Krystle R. Muntz
02/19	Cynthia Hotchkiss
02/20	Nancy Jaywork
02/20	Carolyn Otto Dunch
02/20	Lester Gallihue
02/21	Kathy Hanebutt
02/22	Christine Hopkins
02/25	Christopher Smith
02/25	Edward Bailey
02/25	Shannon Biddle

If we missed anyone, please notify the church office to get your name on the list.

May God Bless You on Your Birthday



IN OUR PRAYERS
PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS

Irene Deamer – was in Kent General with pneumonia.
Leonard Guth – at home with hospice care.
Barba Merriwether – in chemotherapy for abdominal cancer.
Barbara Moore – was in Kent General Hospital with pneumonia
Cameron and **Caroline Ridgeway** -- in Christiana Hospital after premature birth.
A.J. Senato – waiting after spinal-cranial surgery for re-assessment.

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS

Drexel Biddle – Cliff's nephew in GA, heart and lung problems.
Tom Bullard -- Kevin Gilliam's brother-in-law, hospitalized for kidney failure, on the transplant waiting list.
Leon "Buddy" Carter – Brenda Polasko's brother: COPD.
Faye Downey – Marian DePue's friend in MO with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.
Bill Henry – Dodds' friend suffering from advancing Alzheimer's Disease.
Lucille Horsey – Carol Skadsberg's friend.
Sue Leonard – Cleah Muntz's sister: pain from spinal deterioration.
Keith Nicolls – Fred Hotchkiss' uncle: kidney failure.
Tom Rice – Jerry's brother in PA is scheduled for triple bypass surgery on November 4.
Debbie Yates – friend of Pat Thompson, chronic health issues.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Melanie Giangrant -- friend of Judy Reed.
Michelle Hill – Sue Dodd's cousin.
Barbara Jackson – Cleah Muntz's cousin.
Howard Killian – Angela Downs' father.
Gordon Minner – friend of Jeff and Judy Reed.
Christina Neustad – Betsy Stewart's niece.
Diane Nickelson – friend of Brenda Polasko.
Lillian Schrantz – Cleah Muntz's sister-in-law.
Michael Williamson – 12-year-old grandson of Pat Thompson's friend.

THANK YOU

Thank you everyone for all the prayers, cards, thoughts, expressed for my brother, Thorpe, during his illness. They were all welcomed and appreciated.

Jim Caldwell

SYMPATHY

The church's love and sympathy are expressed to Bill and Joyce Darling, and especially to their daughter Cindy and granddaughters Katy and Cari, in the death January 29 of Cindy's husband **Dennis J. Cesarotti** at their home near Chicago. The funeral service was held at Knox Presbyterian Church in Naperville, IL, on February 3. He was 57 years old.

SYMPATHY

The church's love and sympathy are expressed to James Caldwell and his mother Gladys, in the death February 2nd. of Jim's brother Thorpe Caldwell, Jr. after a long illness.

Give to the UCC Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund

If you would like to give specifically for Haiti, Church World Service provides the highest possible percentage of your gift to the people for whom you give. Here are three ways you can give for Haiti.

1. Online www.ucc.org, click on the link, use credit card.
2. Check to People's Church of Dover, marked "Haiti Earthquake Relief," and place it in the offering.
3. Send check to "Wider Church Ministries" marked "Haiti Earthquake Relief," to *OGHS Haiti Relief, Wider Church Ministries, 700 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115.*

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your kind words, your thoughts and prayers, and your gifts during the time of our bereavement. Your love and support were needed, and were welcome as we drove to Middle Tennessee for Harriet's mother's funeral.

-Harriet & Dan Griggs

SNOW CLOSING NOTIFICATION

If People's Church should be closed on a Sunday morning due to a snow storm, it will be broadcast on the following stations.

WDOV-AM radio
WBOC-TV

WRTX-FM radio
TV channel 27/47

DIACONATE FUND

The Board of the Diaconate is the committee in People's Church that oversees worship, fellowship, evangelism, and some of the benevolence. The fund used for benevolence to individuals and families who run into a financial crisis in their utility payments or rent, and travelers stranded in Dover, is called the "Diaconate Fund." There are standards governing the certification of need when Diaconate funds are spent. Last year at this time there was \$3,000 in the Diaconate Fund, and as you can imagine, most of it was used. We retained about \$500 to keep the fund alive until we could rebuild it. During November and December the Diaconate Fund received about \$100. With winter upon us and unemployment still high, needy people qualified to receive our help will have to be turned away, **unless you help**. Please give what you can to the Diaconate Fund. In your box of offering envelopes, at the first of each month there is an offering envelope marked "Communion Offering." What you place in that envelope goes into the Diaconate Fund to serve the needs of the poor. Won't you help!

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion on Sunday February 7.

Men's Breakfast

Thursday February 18
8:00 AM at the
Countrie Eatery

BOARD OF DIACONATE

Paper Shower for People's Church of Dover

Items needed:

1. Colored Printer Paper - Ivory or Cream.
(good on White Paper for now)
2. Toilet Paper & Rolls of Paper Towels
3. Large Plates, Medium Sized Plates,
Dessert Plates, Napkins, Cups, Bowls for
the kitchen!

The Upper Room Devotional Magazine

The cost of the Upper Room Devotional Magazine has been eliminated from the budget! The cost of the Upper Room will be \$ 1.00 each and we will only order what we have interest from the congregation in purchasing. If you wish to have the Upper Room please see Cindy in the church office to enter your subscription!

**Someone has stepped up and paid for the Upper Room for the next year!
To that person Thank You!**

The Church Ads in The State News & The Dover Post

Due to budget short fall we must discontinue these ads! The cost for The State News Ad is at this time \$ 15.00 / Week. The Dover Post Ad cost is around \$ 100.00 +/-Month. If there is anyone who feels strongly about keeping either one of these Ads in the newspapers please let Cindy know!

These have been Stopped!

Memorial

Those that would like to contribute in memory of Nell Holt, Mother of Harriet Griggs please make a check payable to Peoples Church of Dover UCC and we will send it as a group to the charity of Harriet's choice in memory of her Mother. Mrs. Hotchkiss in the church office.

Our Church's Website

Have you looked at our church's website lately?
www.peopleschurchofdoover.org Special thanks to Elinor Baker for all the work she puts into her job as our webmaster.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

There will be another Spaghetti Dinner this winter, scheduled for Sunday, March 28. We will again combine the Youth Group and our board to provide an evening of fun, fellowship, and delicious food. Mark your calendars now!

The **new yoga class** is in full swing with 11 participants. We are meeting at 5:00 P.M. on Thursday evenings, in the gym. We will go for six weeks, then decide whether to continue yoga or try another practice or form of exercise.

We thank the Reverend Courtney Mys for leading our Adult Class on "the five wishes". Attendance has been steady for that class, and Fred is sharing his culinary talents with us again.

The next Board of Christian Education meeting will be February 7, after the worship service.

Jean Hitchens, Chairperson

Youth Group 2009 Children Ages 6-11

Purpose: To create a group that not only teaches children about Jesus, but also involves them in community service and social activities that reinforce His teachings.

Mission Statement: Teach children to incorporate the lessons of Jesus into their own lives through community service and social activities.

BOARD OF FINANCE

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board met last on January 10, 2010. Calvin Waite has volunteered to be the new Chair for the Board, and Mark Biddle agreed to continue Secretary duties. The first meeting of the year was very productive with a long list on new tasks to accomplish and some others carried over from the previous year. Most notably (or noticable!), the repairs to the slate roof on the Sanctuary. These repairs are more extensive than planned with no exact time of completion at present. The water damage to the walls will not be addressed until the roof is completely finished. A good amount of wrought iron repair has taken place around the church grounds to fences, grates, and gates. The next fix will be on one of the gates in the Bell Tower. The Church's riding lawn mower is going for service. The service will determine if the mower (+10 yrs old) will need only a little work or possibly enough work to consider finding a newer/refurbished mower.

The doors to the Narthex (rear entrance to the Sanctuary) are becoming more difficult to deal with and sometimes are not shutting or locking properly. Another issue is that the doors are narrow and caskets are difficult to get in and out. The Board has decided to entertain bids to replace these doors and will be looking for doors that compliment the entrance, as well as having to meet fire code. The Board determined that there are many issues that we deal with, so much intricacy and long history to them that a Board of Management manual or guidebook will be developed. Anyone with a desire to help, especially with historical knowledge of the building and grounds, please contact the Board. The next Board meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2010 directly after the service.

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

The People's Church of Dover is on the schedule to feed the homeless men during the week of February 28th through March 6th. We need to coordinate 7 teams of people to cover each night of that week. I have received offers to help coordinate this project and now we need

teams of people to put the meals together and serve. The men are currently located at the Presbyterian Church on State and Reed Street (right around the corner from us). Volunteers will be needed to cook the meal, serve and clean up afterwards. We will need to be at the Presbyterian Church from about 5:30 to 7:30 each evening. The meals can be cooked at home and brought in or cooked at the church. We can't get into the church kitchen until 5:00pm so cooking at home (or even over at People's Church) and bringing it in will work out best. Please look at your schedule and consider volunteering an evening (or even two) to help us fulfill this obligation. If you have not had the opportunity to come to the shelter and serve a meal I hope that you will consider coming out for an evening and seeing what it's all about. It is a wonderfully humbling experience that I always gain so much more from than I give. If you would like to see more about the shelter you can visit the website at doverinterfaithmission.org.

God Is Still Speaking "Feed My Sheep"

When you make a gift to **One Great Hour of Sharing** you actively participate in tending God's flock throughout the world. Your gift brings shelter, food, water and medical supplies to disaster survivors. You help refugees find safe shelter and begin to build new lives. You aid impoverished communities in securing dependable sources of food and clean water. And you help provide medical care and education that strengthens bodies and minds and creates brighter futures. If you would like to give specifically for Haiti, you can write a check to People's Church and mark it "Haiti Earthquake Relief and place it in the offering. Or online at www.ucc.org and click on donation link.

Board of Mission and Outreach



Food Bank Sunday is February 7th. The items needed this month include **Beef Stew, Spam, Applesauce (cans), Jello, small boxes, and any other non-perishable items.** All donations will go to **First Baptist Church Food Bank.** Thank you for your kind donations, they are greatly appreciated. People's Church is asking that all checks be made payable to the **People's Church of Dover,** so that one check can be given to the designated Food Bank for that month. Thank you for all your generous donations.

There are folders provided in each **pew hymnal rack containing Food Bank envelopes.** Your donation can be put in the collection plate on any Sunday.

Thank you for your kind donations to the **Holy Cross Samaritans Food Bank** for the month of June. There were 60 food items donated and \$60.00 collected. All gifts were given to the **Holy Cross Samaritans Food Bank** for the month of June. Your generous offerings are greatly appreciated.

Sue Hunt and Ruth Harris
Board of Mission & Outreach

VOLUNTEERS

Flowers

02/07	Eileen Lockwood
02/14	Smith Family
02/21	John & Linda Paradee
02/28	Elinor Lee Baker

Liturgist

02/07	Courtney Mys
02/14	Jennifer Myer
02/21	Kathy Thomas
02/28	Judy Zingaro

Greeters

02/07	Cheryl Goldsmith
02/14	Cheryl Goldsmith
02/21	Cheryl Goldsmith
02/28	Cheryl Goldsmith

Ushers

02/07	Karl Swift
02/14	
02/21	Karl Swift
02/28	

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! Call Sandy McNinch at 698-0186.

Sermons & Scriptures

February 7	"A Special Kind of Meeting" Isaiah 6:1-8; Luke 5:1-11 Holy Communion
February 14	"Mountain-Top Experiences" Exodus 34:29-35; Luke 9:28-36
February 17	"Honor Your Father and Mother" Leviticus 19:1-3; Matthew 15:1-9
February 28	"You Shall Not Murder" Deuteronomy 21:1-9; Matthew 5:21-26

YOGA ANYONE?

IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A ONCE-A-WEEK FREE YOGA CLASS AT PEOPLE'S CHURCH FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS THIS WINTER, PLEASE GIVE CINDY HOTCHKISS, IN THE CHURCH OFFICE, YOUR NAME AND NUMBER. IT WILL BE ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTION AND EASY, NON-STRESSFUL STRETCHING.

Women's Fellowship

The ladies gathered on Monday, Jan. 4th to report on their visits to our shut-ins and to approve the program for 2010.

RADA cutlery and more are still available. Please see one of the members to order.

Two of our members delivered a quilt for our adopted Stockley client. The quilt was made and generously donated by member Suzanne Kreisher.

Members agreed to host another "**Fat Tuesday**" **pancake supper on Feb. 16th**, Shrove Tuesday, the eve of Ash Wednesday. **Tickets are available from members and in the office- Adults \$5 and children under 10 years are \$3.** Members are asked to donate various kinds of syrup, sausage and pancake mix and bring them to our **next meeting on Feb. 15th at 12:30pm.**

Caring Hearts Helping Hands (698-1900)

JEFFERSON AWARD WINNER **CONGRATULATIONS**

to **Francis Clinton**, who has been awarded the 12th of sixteen Jefferson Awards for 2009. This recognition by WBOC-TV celebrates her service to the community through Caring Hearts Helping Hands, which she helped start up in 2002 to serve needs of poor children in Kent County.

As Easter comes early this year, we are gearing-up for our Easter program. Each child under 13 will receive a basket filled with small toys, etc and some candy. Children 13-18 will received a chocolate bunny and a token gift.

We are currently accepting children's gently used and new fall and winter clothes; furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, linens, gently used board games (with all the pieces included) and always need cleaning supplies, paper products, personal hygiene items, and gifts for teen birthdays. No adult clothes please.

Our office hours are every Tuesday, 10 am - 2 pm; the first Wednesday evening of each month, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm and the first and third Saturday of each month, 10 am - 12 pm. We are always looking for volunteers to help sort and hang gently used donations that come into our warehouse next to Jonathan Landing Golf Club house. Please feel free to come by any time.

If you are interested in helping or know of any teens or college students who need hours of community service, we would be happy to have their help as well.

Thanks again for all your support.

Fran Clinton and BJ Van Kavelaar

Your Church on the Internet

www.peopleschurchofdover.org

webmaster: Elinor Baker

www.chesapeakeucc.org

our local UCC association

webmaster: Rob Cox

www.cacucc.org

Central Atlantic Conference

www.ucc.org

National Setting: United Church of Christ

→ www.ucc.org/news

denomination's magazine: United Church News

www.iucc.org

web community and Twitter contact

www.ucc.org/disaster/swine-flu.html

information & resources about the H1N1 virus