

HILLTOP HERALD

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH www.churchonthehilltop.org LINGLESTOWN, PA

FEBRUARY 2010

Ash Wednesday

February 17

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. There will be two opportunities for worship:

- ◆ 11:30AM - This abbreviated service (30-35 minutes) will include Confession, Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion
- ◆ 7:30PM - The full service, including a sermon

A supervised Nursery for small children will be available at the evening service. Join us!

NOTE: Included in this mailing is your *Lenten Offering Box* for your daily Lenten offering. Once again this year, we are suggesting you think in terms of at least \$1-\$2 *per day*, in order for this to represent something which approximates a true sacrifice.

Midweek Lenten Services

Wednesdays - 7:30PM

On Wednesday evenings, beginning on February 24th, and continuing through March, we will come together at 7:30PM for Evening Prayer. Please plan now on being with us during this holy season, as together we make our way to the Cross.

AND . . .

Soup Suppers

Wednesdays, 6:30-7+PM

We will serve, from 6:30-7+PM, a light supper of homemade soup and bread each Wednesday during Lent (except on Ash Wednesday). While there is no "charge" for this meal, we suggest a free-will donation of \$3.00/person. Our soup on February 24th - Ham and Bean! Join us!

Sunday School Mardi Gras

Sunday, Feb 14 - 11:30AM

Our Sunday Church School will hold their annual Mardi Gras on Sunday, February 14, beginning at 11:30AM. This popular event will include food, games and prizes. Pastor Stickleby will lead the children in the preparation of ashes for Ash Wednesday. *AND*, we will be crowning our new king and queen of Mardi Gras! Watch your email for more information.

Choirs, Choirs, Choirs . . .

Both of our choirs have resumed rehearsals — our Handbell Choir on Tuesday evenings at 6:45PM, and our Adult Vocal Choir on Thursday evenings at 7:00PM. There is still plenty of time to include participation in one (or both) of these choirs in your personal ministry for the coming Lent/Easter season. Interested? Speak with our Director of Music, Sue Daniels (652-3810), or with Pastor Stickleby.

Financial Statements

End of year (2009) financial statements are available on a table in the Great Room. These are both reminders of giving and important IRS documents. Be sure to pick up yours.

New Council Officers

The following new Council Officers were elected at the January meeting:

President - Linda Bugden
Vice-President - Don Krause
Secretary - Jay Nennering
Treasurer - Tina Morgan

Financial Secretary - John Potteiger

When you see them - or any of the other members of Council - please thank them for the extra time they put in to serving our church.

Annual Congregational Meeting, Part 2

Sunday, Feb 7 - 11:30AM

The second part of our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 7, at 11:30AM.

We will meet in the nave to review our ministry, programs and finances for the year 2009, and will begin to look ahead to 2010.

Copies of the Annual Reports are available on a table in our Great Room. Please read through these reports *before* the meeting.

The Annual Meeting is an important way to keep your finger on the "pulse" of our church family. Plan now on being with us!

Mission Committee

If you have email, you received an electronic copy of the most recent Mission Committee Newsletter, with news about Mission trips in 2010.

Of most immediate concern is the mission trip to Austell, Georgia. In September, 2009, this area received 22.5 inches of rain in 24 hours. The city of Austell with 2,400 homes, was the hardest hit and is the lowest income area of Cobb County.

This mission trip will focus on restoring the interior of a home. We have a number of our members going, but we are looking for more. If you have interest (or just want more information), please contact Randy Sibert (rsbs@comcast.net) or 545-2198. *AND*, if you would like to show your support for this trip, donations will be appreciated. Just make your check payable to "Christ Lutheran Church," put it in an envelope marked "Georgia" and mail it to the Church Office, or place it in the offering plate any Sunday. Thanks!

Youth Happenings . . .

Upper Elementary Youth Group (Grades 4-6)

- ◆ February 28, 4:00PM-5:30PM

Youth Group (Grades 7-12)

- ◆ February 21, 6:00-9:00PM - Youth Group Meeting - Movie With A Message

Snow Closings . . .

A reminder - should the weather make you wonder if worship has been cancelled, please check -

- ◆ TV Channels 15, 21 or 27
- ◆ Radio channels WHP 580AM, 97.3FM or 99.3FM, or
- ◆ Websites abc27.com, cbs21.com, or cw15.com.

In addition, you may call the church office to check our answering machine. And of course, in all situations, please use your best judgment: while we want you here, we want you here *safe* most of all!

Breakfast Is Served! Sunday, February 21

Our Fellowship Team continues to put together a delicious breakfast (hot and cold items, muffins, bagels, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, etc.) for all comers between services (9:00 - 10:15AM) on the third Sunday of each month. This month, that will occur on the 21st. Be sure to join us for great food, and lots of fellowship!

Church Youth Mission Trip July 11-17, 2010

In September, 2008, severe storms caused unprecedented flooding in northwest Indiana; 22,000 families were affected, with hundreds still displaced.

At their January 17 meeting - at the urging of our Youth Advisor, Michael Bricker - our Youth decided to participate in a Mission Trip to this area, to be organized by LutheranHANDS. In all, there will be 200 youth and adults from the Lower Susquehanna Synod answering God's call to service in His Name. Congregation Council has promised each Youth participating in this trip a \$100 scholarship towards the cost. Watch for more information in the coming months concerning ways YOU can show your support for this Youth Mission trip.

Speaking of God . . .

our monthly opportunity to gather for informal theological conversation, will be held on Sunday, February 14, at 9:15 in Room 10 (Youth Room).

Flowers and Bulletins for 2010

The new Altar Flower and Bulletin Chart for 2010 is posted on the kiosk in the Great Room. The cost remains the same for the coming year (Bulletins - \$15.00/Flowers - \$17.50). Sponsoring these items for our worship is a meaningful way to memorialize a loved one, to honor someone, or to remember a special event. NOTE: Make sure you sign up in the correct place; one side is bulletins, the other is flowers. Check before you write!

Thank You . . .

- ◆ "Dear Church Family, Thank you for the cards, calls and prayers during the illness and recent passing of my father. Your kindness was appreciated. MarLee Kertulis"
- ◆ "Dear Pastor Stickley and members - Thank you for your prayers and support throughout the year. All our love, Kyle, Amy, Ally & Ahren Stauffer (NOTE: Kyle is now home safe and sound from his tour of duty in Iraq - Welcome Home, Kyle!)"
- ◆ "Thank you so much for your recent contribution of \$1,000 to Christian Churches United! Your generous support of the ministries of CCU means so much. Jacqueline Rucker, Exec. Dir."
- ◆ "Dear Friends of the Food Pantry, On behalf of the many people who benefit from your generous donations, the Ecumenical Food Pantry would like to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation."
- ◆ "On behalf of PAWS, thank you for your generous support. Carol Prouser, Secretary" (This gift was made from the free-will offering received at this past year's Blessing of the Animals service).
- ◆ "Hello from Blairsville, PA! We're getting our Christmas greeting out a little late this year, but it's every bit as sincere. . . We want you to know that we enjoy your cards and letters, and we wish you all a healthy, happy and blessed 2010. Alice and Ellsworth Gaylor"
- ◆ "Thank you for your donation in support of the Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families. Your donation helps families of all sorts get back on their feet and change their lives. Sincerely, Barbara J. Schreiber, Director of Development.

Rest Eternal Grant Her, O Lord

Our prayers in the hope of the Resurrection go to the family of Sherry Roush. Sherry died on January 5, following an extended illness. Pastor Stickley presided at the funeral service at Hoover's Funeral Home on January 9. On behalf of the family, Ken Basehore (Sherry's father) wishes to thank everyone for the flowers and cards.