

the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 ? (610) 326-2810 ? APRIL 2006

OUR VISION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

*“To Be, and to Become, a Worshiping, Caring, Teaching,
and Outreaching Congregation.”*

In This Edition Look for...

Pastors Notes

Page 3

Lenten & Holy Week Schedule

Pages 4, 5

VBS and Bible Study

Page 6

Discipleship and Fellowship

Pages 7-12

Health News

Page 13

Member Announcements

Page 13

Thank You Notes

Pages 13,14

Treasurer's Report, Council Info

Page 15



Sunday Schedule

Worship

8 and 10:45 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship

9 a.m.

Children's Education

10:45 a.m.

Adult Education Classes

9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion Weekly

**1896-2006 St. James Lutheran Church - Celebrating 110 Years of
Ministry *Emphasizing Our Vision to Be an Outreaching Congregation***



OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. - noon

TELEPHONE

610-326-2810

Fax: 610-326-1025

www.stjamespottstown.org

STAFF

Ministers

Each and Every Member of St. James

Pastor

The Rev. Peter Hutchinson

e-mail: pastorh@stjamespottstown.org

home 610-718-0313

Director of Discipleship

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Secretary

Pam Lloyd

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Organist and Choir Director

Lincoln Noecker

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Missionaries

Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson

Kathmandu, Nepal

Newsletter Editor

Dawn Detweiler

newsletterstj@wi.rr.com

OFFICE NOTES

Master Calendar / Room Scheduling

All room reservations, including committee meetings and private gatherings, should be made with Pam in the office. She will post the event on the master calendar, in the weekly bulletin when applicable, and will directly inform those who should be told about the event.

Please indicate to her any need for room rearrangement, (extra chairs, tables) so proper preparations can be made.

Newsletter Deadline for May Edition: April 15, 2006

Article submissions can be sent by e-mail to newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org or placed in the "newsletter" mailbox the Sunday before the deadline. Also please note that articles may be edited for clarity and space conservation.

Catching Up On Offerings

When you are unable to attend worship on any given Sunday, please make up that day's offering the next week. St. James' budget is based on members' weekly offering pledge times 52 Sundays. When you and your offering are absent, our ministry is diminished.

Weekly Bulletin Announcements Now on the Website

Weekly bulletin announcements now can be found on St. James' website under the **new section called News, Needs and Calendar**. This section will be updated weekly with new information available from week to week. **Check it out for yourself at www.stjamespottstown.org** .





Pause as we prepare for the Resurrection

God's grace and peace be with you as you continue in your Lenten disciplines to grow closer, in faith, to our Lord Jesus Christ.

In case you hadn't already realized it, Lent is one of my favorite seasons of the Church year. That may sound strange, with all its emphasis on deprivation and self-denial and talk about suffering and sacrifice, but a serious observance of Lent is consistent with a proper attention to a "theology of the cross" (something Luther focused quite a bit upon).

A theology of the cross (as opposed to a theology of glory-which we also often hear from Christian circles) emphasizes the fact that Jesus came in lowliness and humility and ended up dying the death of a criminal. He enters into pain and suffering and death, and he does so willingly for the sake of others strengthened immeasurably by faith in God his Father.

A theology of the cross reminds us that as Christian people, we have the promise of glory awaiting us, but that to get there, we too must go down the hard road, the narrow way, and take on the humility of the cross itself as part of our journey towards that ultimate glory.

When a theology of the cross is followed, it tends to turn the things of the world on their head. So that, unlike what the culture around us says, we discover that we are called to serve (not to be served)...called to sacrifice (and not get a bargain or find the easiest

route)... and we are even called to suffer (instead of believing that avoidance of discomfort or inconvenience at all costs is our goal in life). We do or accept all these things, not because of some masochistic desire, but for the sake of Christ and for others.

Too many church leaders want to lead their people around the cross and its demands, to cheer and celebrate the joy and bliss of the glory part, forgetting that the story is a two part drama. That can sometimes give cause to only revel in the fulfillment of personal salvation, without meeting the expectation of our giving back to God for his grace,...sometimes loving in that way so much that it hurts. There's nothing wrong with glory and reward, but following Jesus means we go with him to the cross and not take the bypass around it.

And so, as we do final preparation for The Day of Resurrection and the celebration of the Easter season, let us pause to give thanks for the Lenten disciplines and practices that will have enriched our lives of faith and added to our joy!

SERMON REQUEST TO THE PASTOR

In the past, some people have asked if I could give them a copy of a sermon I delivered. I have been more than happy to give them one, and quite frankly I was flattered that someone wanted a copy. More importantly than bolstering my self-esteem, I was pleased that persons were interested in re-reading a sermon that spoke to their heart and may help enhance their faith and understanding of the nature of God, the ministry of Jesus Christ, and the work of the Holy Spirit. So if it will aid your spiritual growth to have a copy of one of my sermons, please don't hesitate to let me know and I will share a copy. (Just as long as you are ready to forgive the grammatical mistakes).

WORSHIP NOTES



April's Rejoicing Spirits worship will be on the **third Wednesday of the month** and not the second. The date for our Easter Rejoicing Spirits worship will be **Wednesday, April 19 at 7 p.m.** with fellowship time following worship. We will be learning new songs and celebrating The Resurrection of our Lord through worship, music and prayer. Remember that even though Rejoicing Spirits is dedicated to sharing God's Word and spreading his love to our brothers and sisters with developmental disabilities it is also open to everyone in the community. If you have not had a chance to come and worship with us, please prayerfully consider joining us.

Also this month we have good news to share among the Rejoicing Spirits Host Churches. **The Rejoicing Spirits Ministry at St. Paul's has been awarded to receive the Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services, Inc. 2006 Christian Service Award for Volunteers.** The award recognizes outstanding and dedicated service in the field of developmental disability services by Lutheran volunteers at the local, state, national or denominational level. They were completely surprised by the announcement and did not know that Rejoicing Spirits was being considered.

Congratulations to St. Paul's Lutheran Church!!

Lenten Soup/Salad Supper and Worship

Our last mid-week worship Lenten Soup/Salad Supper followed by worship will be **April 5. A sign up sheet is available in Horn Hall** for those who plan to attend supper. We will be concluding our courtroom drama of the Grand Jury looking into the trial and execution of Jesus. Our final witness for this night will be Peter. Come and learn more about the events surrounding Jesus' death

Supper is served at 6 p.m. and worship begins at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome, so bring with you a friend.

Passion/Palm Sunday April 9, 2006



Celebrate with a palm processional and Holy Communion at both the 8 and 10:45 a.m. worship services. Because of the palm procession, we will first gather for worship in the Narthex with overflow into Horn Hall. A dramatic reading of the Passion will also take place at both services.

HOLY WEEK

Monday, April 10, 2006

Viewing of the movie "The Gospel of John" at 6:30 p.m. A brief discussion will follow.

Tuesday, April 11, 2006

An hour and a half long bible study on the Passion of Christ as told in the Gospel of Mark (this year's lectionary gospel) at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12, 2006

A Seder Supper at 6 p.m. will be held in which the traditional Jewish Passover meal will be held with on-going explanations and reading of bible passages to tell the story of the Israelite people and God's deliverance of them.

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 Seder Meal at 6 p.m.

Come celebrate our Judeo-Christian roots at the Seder Meal. Passover is the oldest religious festival in Judaism, commemorating God's deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and his creation of the Israelite people. The focal point of Passover is a communal meal, called the Seder (which means "order," because of the fixed order of service), which is a time of rejoicing and celebration at the deliverance of the Hebrews that God accomplished in the exodus. The Seder ritual also has great meaning for Christians. It was the Seder Meal that Jesus was celebrating with His disciples when He instituted the Last Supper. **Please sign up in Horn Hall if you plan to attend. Also mark if you would like to contribute** foods, help with set up, serving or cleanup. A free-will offering will be taken at the meal.

Thursday, April 13, 2006

Traditional Maundy Thursday worship service at 7 p.m., with laying on of hands for individual absolution announced and Holy Communion celebrated. At the end of the service, the Altar is stripped to symbolize the stripping and humiliation of Jesus at the cross.

Friday, April 14, 2006

Two brief Good Friday worship services will be held at 2 and 7 p.m. on the day that Jesus was crucified.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 16, 2006

Worship at 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. with Holy Communion and an extended coffee fellowship in between worship services. There will be no adult education or confirmation classes on this day.



Easter Morning Coffee Fellowship

All are invited to a special time of **extended coffee fellowship on Easter morning** beginning immediately following the 8 a.m. worship service and continuing to the start of the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

Come enjoy good coffee, delicious home-made bake goods, other fresh food and fruit and festive fellowship. No adult education or confirmation classes will be held that day.

(Note: This coffee fellowship is in place of the previously scheduled Easter breakfast.)



Third Sunday Offering April Recipient

Visiting Nurse Association

The Visiting Nurse Association of Pottstown and Vicinity is the beneficiary of April's Third Sunday Offering. The VNA is part of a family of four voluntary, non-profit, home health organizations that provide services in Montgomery, Chester, Berks, Delaware, and Bucks Counties. They deliver a variety of services in primary nursing, infusion therapy, enterostomal therapy, psychiatric/mental health, home care, rehabilitation, medical social services, hospice care, maternal/child health, dietician services, in-home support, and other support groups.

If you need services, are not certain which services you may need, or would like an assessment visit (with no financial obligation), please call 610-327-5700. You can also access their website for **more information at www.vnapottstown.org**.

The Visiting Nurse Association does much needed and appreciated work in our community. Please consider supporting their effort through April's Third Sunday Offering.

Third Sunday Offering Schedule

- MAY - Manatawny Manor
- JUNE - Salvation Army
- JULY - Missionaries
- AUGUST - School supplies for children
- SEPTEMBER - Lutheran World Relief
- OCTOBER - Cluster Outreach Center
- NOVEMBER - Prison Fellowship
- DECEMBER - ELCA World Hunger

Mark Your Calendars
Vacation Bible School
July 24-28, 2006
6:30- 8:30 p.m.
at Emmanuel Lutheran Church

For the third year, we will be doing Vacation Bible School jointly with Emmanuel Lutheran Church, located at Walnut and Hanover Streets. The dates for VBS are July 24-28 with Emmanuel hosting this year. "Son Treasure Island" is the theme for 2006. Vacation Bible School will be for **children preschool - grade 6** with lots of **opportunities for youth and adults to volunteer** with teaching, crafts, and music. Look for more details to come.

Bible Study



Gatherings will continue immediately after Easter as we start a new series called "Faith on the Edge." The subject of Bioethics and the connection (and sometimes clash) of science and moral underpinnings of society will be discussed from a Christian perspective with biblical references to help our exploration of some current and provocative issues.

Each session will cover a contemporary topic, summarizing what science has to say along with what we believe God tells us how we respond. Meetings will once again be on **Tuesday evenings at the church at 7 p.m. and at the Sanatoga Ridge Community on Thursdays at 10 a.m.** You're invited! So is anyone you would like to bring who might find the topic interesting. Our six-week schedule (which runs between Easter and Memorial Day weekend) will be as follows;

- April 18 & 20 – "And You'll be Like God"
- April 25 & 27 – "In the Beginning God Created"
- May 2 & 4 – "In Search of the Perfect Child"
- May 9 & 11 – "The Immortal Clone"
- May 16 & 18 – "The Stem Cell Revolution"
- May 23 & 25 – "The Valley of the Shadow of Death"

DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Committee Night

Note: There will be no Committee Night in March or April during Lent. Committees may choose to meet those months either after worship on March 1 or April 5 or to meet on a different night.

Fair Trade Coffee

*** ONLY 2 more months to get your coffee, Cocoa, & tea at St. James ***

Stop by the youth table **April 16th and May 21st** to make your final purchases! You can also pick up information on how to get the same products mailed to you.

SCRIP

Scrip is a term that means "substitute money". When you purchase Scrip, you're purchasing negotiable gift certificates that are used just like cash. Scrip is issued by national and local retailers; places you already shop. These merchants want to support non-profit organizations, and in return ask you to support them by shopping with scrip at their stores. Use Scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, gasoline, clothing, and other essentials and non-essentials, and with every purchase, Scrip earns revenue for the hunger programs we support through these efforts. Why not consider some to add to your Easter nest?

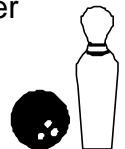
Paul's Run Brunch

Paul's Run Retirement Community (a ministry of Liberty Lutheran Services) invites you to its **25th anniversary Brunch and Silent Auction on Saturday May 7, 2006** at the Knowlton Mansion, Rhawn and Verree Rd., Philadelphia, PA. Tours and silent auction will begin at 11:30 a.m. Brunch is served at 12:30 p.m. Please call Barbara Dorfman, Director of Marketing at 215-934-3021 for information and reservations.

Thrivent Bowl-A-Thon May 7th at 1:30 p.m. Limerick Lanes

It is time for the annual Thrivent Bowl-a-Thon to be held on Sunday, May 7, 2006 at Limerick Lanes at 1:30 p.m. The bowl-a-thon benefits Manatawny Manor and Helping Hands with Thrivent Financial for Lutheran matching funds raised.

Bowlers and non-bowlers of all ages are encouraged to participate with bumper bowling for the young enthusiast! Please contact Suzanne Rigg (610-326-2810 or 610-970-4865) by Sunday, April 23, 2006 if you would like to participate in the bowl-a-thon and receive a sponsor form.



WELCA News

Women of the church will be preparing and serving the Lenten Wednesday Meal April 5th, and there will not be a formal meeting during April. BUT get ready for the **Spring Rummage Sale is coming May 1st and 2!** Have your CLEAN, ready-to-use items packed to bring to the church Sunday, April 30th. Place them in Horn Hall, in the marked area, and plan to shop!! **Shopping for St. James members will be Monday from 4-6 p.m. The sale for the public is Tuesday from 9-noon and 12:30-1:30 p.m.**

UMC Bible Study

The next **WELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study** will be held at St. James Lutheran Church, Pottstown, on **Tuesday, April 4, 2006, at 10 a.m.** with coffee at 9:30. The leader will be Betty Darocha.

The May Bible Study will be held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Pottstown, on Tuesday, May 2, 2006, with Sheila Specht as leader.

All women are invited to participate in these Bible Studies found in the Lutheran Woman Today Magazine. This is the 21st year of meeting and sharing together. If you would like to attend, please contact Grace Schafer or Mary Arnt for carpooling.



Choral Concert

Please mark your calendar for **Sunday, April 30 at 3 p.m.** to attend the Boyertown Area Choral Association's 16th Annual Spring Concert under the direction of Margueritte (Peg) Lamb at St. James.

If you would like to be a patron for the concert, please contact Janis Lunn, 610-367-8762. If you could bake or make sandwiches for the reception following the concert, please call Debbie Hutchinson, 610-718-0313 or Tracie Rheel, 610-323-7051.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND AND TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS!!

Liberty Lutheran Services Invites You to Its 2006 Signature Event!

"THE LION KING"
A Disney Theatrical Production
SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2006,
1:00 pm at the Academy of Music.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Lutheran Disaster Response Partners of Southeast Pennsylvania, whose services to disaster victims are coordinated through Liberty Lutheran Services.

Ticket Prices:
Balcony (Patrons)- \$250.00 each;
Family Circle A-B- \$175.00 each;
Family Circle- \$135.00 each;
Middle Amphitheater- \$55.00;
Side Amphitheater- \$35.00.

To order tickets, call 215-283-2404.

Special Food Collection for the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities

On Sunday, April 23, 2006 St. James will be having a special food collection for the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities. Current needs can be found in the Cluster Outreach Center article to the right side of this page. Please feel free to bring these items as well as cereals, soups, tuna, canned vegetables, baby food, canned fruit juices, canned pasta or other canned or boxed non-perishable foods. **You may place your donation in the collection basket inside the back door by the parking lot any time from now through April 23.** On the 23rd food collection baskets will be available in the narthex.



The Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities (PCRC) is once again participating in The Feinsein Challenge. For a ninth straight year, Alan Shawn Feinstein will divide \$1,000,000 among hunger-fighting agencies nationwide using it to help them raise funds during March and April 2006.

For all money and food items received by the Cluster from March 1 through April 30, 2006, PCRC is permitted to count the financial contributions in dollars and food donations as \$1 per item. This information is then submitted to the Feinstein Foundation in early May and the Cluster receives a proportionate share of the \$1million posted by Mr. Feinstein based on the amounts raised by all agencies in the country participating in the Challenge by the end of June. Even though the Cluster does not receive a dollar-for-dollar match on the funds raised, the additional money still helps PCRC help others.

Please remember to bring your food items on or before April 23 to help raise money for PCRC and to help feed those in our community who are in need.

Cluster Outreach Center

CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS:

Clothing Sorters - Volunteers needed to unpack, sort, tag and rack donations of adult clothing, shoes and household items. - Everyday during operating hours.

Food Pantry - There is a lot of food to sort at the Outreach Center. If you can read, you can sort. - Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

Food Pantry - Need volunteers to help with bagging fresh foods and stocking shelves. - Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Mornings and Wednesday afternoons.

Community Meals - Volunteer Teams to prepare and transport food for Kid's Cafe.

If you would like to volunteer, contact the Outreach Center at 610-970-5995, or stop in at 137 Walnut Street, Pottstown.

Pantry Needs:

Canned fruit, crackers, peanut butter and jelly, cereal, and spaghetti sauce

Clothing & Household Needs:

Baby bath, powder and lotion, size 2 pull-ups and 4 diapers, boys underwear (all sizes), women's underwear, silverware and table lamps.

Jump Start:

Donations of used cars in good condition.

Always needed:

Brown paper and plastic grocery bags, all sizes of Ziploc plastic bags, paper towels.

Donations accepted Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9-11 a.m. and Wednesday 3-5 p.m. Also from 9-11 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month.

Hunger in the U.S.

America's Second Harvest, the nation's largest network of food banks, soup kitchens and shelters served 25.4 million people last year, a 9 percent increase from 2001. Here are some of the characteristics of those seeking emergency food assistance:

- Thirty-nine percent were white, non-Hispanic; 38 percent were black; 17 percent were Hispanic.
- About nine million were children.
- Twelve percent were homeless.
- About a third said they had to choose between buying food or paying for medicine or medical care.
- Fifty-eight percent live in metro areas; 42 percent live in rural or suburban areas.

Resource - The Philadelphia Inquirer

Salvation Army Community Lunch Second Wednesday of Month

Volunteers are needed! Cooking and preparing the meal begins at 8:30 a.m. and is usually done by 11:30 a.m. Serving and cleaning up begins at 11:30 a.m. and volunteers are usually done by 1:30 p.m.

Please consider helping those in need. For additional information please contact Jean Drauschak at 610-323-1792.



Community Meal

In 2006, St. James is helping with the community meal on the following Thursdays: April 27, June 22, August 24 and October 26. Volunteers are needed to provide desserts, to cook, set up and clean up. If you need more information, or would like to help, please call Susan Cameron at 610-718-9926.

Scholarship Fund Applications Available



\$1000 a year is available to be given to youth as scholarship monies for college or post high school education. Allocation of the scholarship money will be dependent on the number of approved candidates as determined by the Scholarship Committee. **Applications are available from Pat Weber, Scholarship Committee Chair (610-326-5421) and must be submitted completed no later than 4/14/06.**

The following criteria will be considered when granting these scholarships:

- ? Applicant must be an active member of St. James for a minimum of one year.
- ? Applicant must be active in St. James' ministries.
- ? Applicant must be at least a Senior at their high school and are eligible to receive scholarship monies up to five years from their high school graduation date.
- ? Applicant must graduate with a minimum 2.5 GPA or its equivalent.
- ? Applicant must be accepted into or participating in a recognized program of studies (ex. college, junior college, community college, nursing school, trade school, etc.)
- ? Applicant must have a satisfactory record of school citizenship and attendance.
- ? Applicant may apply more than once for this scholarship if they met the above criteria.

If you have any questions about this exciting program, please contact Pat Weber for further details. **Don't forget to make the April 14th deadline.**



Health News

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?"

1 Corinthians 6:19

IS IT O.K. TO USE HOT TAP WATER FOR INSTANT HOT BEVERAGES LIKE TEA, COOKING OR BABY FORMULA?

By Kelly Garrett

Source: "Healthy Family", *Better Homes and Gardens*, April 2006

NO!!!

Hot water from your faucet is more likely to contain dangerous levels of lead, says Veronica Blette, a special assistant in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Water. Lead can leak into the water from your plumbing. And just as sugar dissolves more easily in hot water, so does lead. Because lead does not evaporate, boiling the water only increases the concentration. That makes the hot tap an especially bad choice for preparing coffee, tea, or baby formula. Lead is a known health hazard, which is why the EPA limits its levels in municipal water supplies.

In adults prolonged use may, over time, increase the risk of kidney and heart disease. But the real concern is how it affects children. Lead can cause developmental problems as they grow. Those problems can be mental or

physical, and may include learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders. As a precaution, run hot and cold kitchen taps for a minute or two—first thing in the morning to flush out any lead released overnight. Do the same thing after a vacation or weekend away. Or add a good quality water filter that attaches to the tap. These filters reduce lead levels to near zero as well as screen out most other contaminants.



Miller-Keystone Blood Drive

Pottstown Hospital uses Miller-Keystone for their Blood Supplies as do the hospitals we use in the Reading, Allentown, and Bethlehem areas. Our next blood drive to help supply these areas, so you and your loved ones can receive blood if needed is **April 24th from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m.** Please donate blood and help save lives. Call Marge Fegley at (610)323-3936 to make an appointment to donate here at St. James.

Blood pressure checks

What is your Blood Pressure? Find Out on April 2nd after the 8 a.m. service or before the 10:45 a.m. service.

The Pottstown Relay for Life event

is only 2 months away and the St. James team has been busy making plans. We currently have 29 team members signed up and our tent site on the track has been selected!

The team members are as follows:

Pat & Ted Baer, Barbara Ungerman
Mary Arnt, Marge Fegley, Olga Christman,
Jeanette Wert, Carol & Harry Keller, Debbie
Fisher, Mike & Janis Lunn, Leslie Stott, Pastor
& Debbie Hutchinson, Rebecca Stott, Dave
Hartzman, Bob Rheel, Dottie Smith, Tracie
Rheel, Vicki & Justin Kirsten, Sandy Olock,
Laurie O'Connell, Wendy Cocci, Diane &
Jessica Mitchell, Rose Schoenly, Barbara
Thornton

All of the team members are committed to raising \$100.00 each and walking for at least one hour on the track between the hours of **10 a.m., May 20th to 10 a.m. May 21st.**

We have some wonderful items to be raffled off again this year and they will be on display at the church after April 22. **April 22nd is a Downtown Pottstown kickoff for the Relay - St. James will be set up on High St., between Penn & Hanover**, selling baked goods and raffle tickets. It's a fun day! High Street is closed off so you can walk around and enjoy the fun and support the Relay!

We thank you once again for all your support - donations can be given to any of the team members. **Luminary forms can be obtained from any of the team members.**

Mark your calendars - **May 20th at Pottsgrove High School.** Remember, you are supporting the American Cancer Society.

Preeclampsia Foundation 2nd Annual Walk-a-Thon



**Saturday
May 6, 2006
10 a.m.**

Pottsgrove High School

Preeclampsia is a condition that occurs during pregnancy and the postpartum period and affects both mother and baby. This rapidly progressive disorder is characterized by dangerously high blood pressure, swelling, and protein in urine.

Preeclampsia influences at least 5-8 percent of all pregnancies and it is responsible for 15 percent of all premature births. It is as common in the U.S. as breast cancer. Its cause is unknown.

The Preeclampsia Foundation's purpose is to reduce maternal and infant illness or death due to preeclampsia by raising public awareness and supporting innovative research and education.

You can make a difference!

Join the walk, sponsor a friend, or donate directly to the cause.

Registration forms and info can be found in Horn Hall or **contact Dawn Detweiler at 610-258-9290 or dkkd@wi.rr.com.**

*** Reading Phillies game ticket give-aways for early registration.*

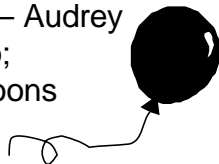
Raffles.

*Free t-shirt for each walker! ***

MEMBER NEWS

April Birthdays

1 – Bob Jerdon; 3 – Jim Meloy;
4 – Mary Jane Bealer, Janet Miller;
6 – Cindy Bush, Connie Worrall; 8 – Joan Griffith;
10 – Jean Drauschak; 12 – April Taylor;
16 – Pat Weber; 17 – Joan Gardiner;
18 – Megan Mace; 19 – Diana Kuchenbrod, Earl Moyer;
20 – Bernie Roth; 22 – Joe Mittura;
24 – Kevin Wert; 25 – Audrey Maurer;
26 – Florence Gallino;
30 – Edmond Gallino, Amy Koons



Congratulations to Thelma Longstretch who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on April 16.

Altar Flowers, Eternal Light and Bulletin Sponsorships

Sign up sheets are posted in Horn Hall for anyone who would like to sponsor the altar flowers, eternal light and/or bulletins. If you sponsored a particular week in 2005 you will need to sign up again for that week in 2006. No one automatically has the same week they had the previous year.

The cost of each sponsorship is \$15 for eternal light, \$40 for altar flowers, and \$15 for bulletins. Envelopes are available in Horn Hall on the resource table for the money or check. The envelopes may be placed in the offering plate or may be returned to the office.

Deepest Sympathies to the family and friends of Anna Fegley.

Memorial Contributions Given

In memory of Elmer Saylor: Betty Darocha

In memory of David Welsh: Mr. and Mrs. Willard Bickel, George Welsh

In memory of Anna Fegley: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sibel, Sr., Albert Kutz, Elaine Christman, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Bickel, Susanne Krause, Nina Mulrooney & Al Dorof, Dick and Janet Miller, Penn Mutual Agents Advisory Council, Penn Mutual Insurance Company, Donald R. Fegley, Carol and Peter Hall, Sara and James Hall, Susan L. Hall, Maurice Stewart, Mary Ann & Bill Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Stauffer Kutz, Georgia Fegley, Margaret Wanger, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Toran, Donna Beath, Hank & Betty Snyder, S. Joy Taglieber, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Huyett

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to all who helped with our Wednesday night Lenten worship in March, especially David Garner, David Hartzman, Andy Olock, Ron Schafer, Willard Bickel, Julia Jackson, and members of our Chancel Choir.

Thank you to all who provided food at our Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers and to those who helped with the clean up.

(Thank you notes continued)

Thank you to everyone who gave to the Third Sunday Offering benefiting the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (LTSP). The offering collected totaled \$603. With the 2 for 1 matching funds from the endowment monies our total gift to LTSP was \$1809. Thanks again to all for your generosity.

Dear Friends at St. James,

Thank you so much for your big gift for our support in January and please keep praying for us! The insurgency in this land is getting worse, but we don't feel personal danger.

The Old Testament Commentary articles are sent off to Kingsway and the Nepali concordance almost finished!

Love,
Stephen and Becky Thorson

To Council and the Congregation,

On behalf of the Preeclampsia Foundation I would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$500 toward our local Pottsgrove, PA walk-a-thon. This generous sponsorship covers insurance costs and preparation fees with funds still left over for research. Thank you for helping to make this event possible, and for making a difference in the lives of those of us touched by Preeclampsia!

Warm regards,
Dawn Detweiler

Thank you to Joe Mittura for his recent work on the website.

Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for organizing our Shrove Tuesday Celebration.



Love Notes

Over the past few Sundays, the pastor has been handed 'notes to Jesus' written on scraps of paper and placed in small envelopes from Jeremy and Troy Wagner as they left worship. When the pastor opened them (not to snoop, but so as to send them along to Jesus in prayer) he found that they simply said "**I love you.**"

It sounds like a cute thing, and it is. But it makes us stop and think.....how often do we take the time just to say that to Jesus ourselves? We all know how nice it is to hear such words when someone says it to us. Maybe we should take a lesson from these young boys and try saying it more often to the One who loves and saves us.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Ideas Needed!

Are you involved in a volunteer organization that would benefit from financial support? Council needs ideas on how to spend 3-7% of the endowment as mandated in the Endowment Charter. A minimum of \$10,641 must be allocated this year!

We are looking for ways to fulfill our mission to "reach out to the community and the world". Why support organizations that St. James' members are involved in? To lift up your effort, increase the organization's exposure, and accomplish what we are so lovingly called to do.

Please communicate your ideas to a Council member today!

TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Feb 2006</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$17,955.57	\$39,886.37
Expenses	<u>26,628.50</u>	<u>49,164.38</u>
Net Income	(\$8,672.93)	(\$ 9,278.01)
<u>REGULAR ENVELOPES</u>		
Received	\$15,532.00	\$33,341.51
Needed*	<u>20,034.76</u>	<u>40,069.51</u>
Over (Under)	\$ (4,502.76)	(\$6,728.00)
<u>THIRD SUNDAY OFFERING</u>		
Collected	\$ 603.00	
Beneficiary	<i>Seminary Support</i>	

*Each month includes \$14,653 actual pledged and \$5,382 needed growth to balance the budget.

Council Member Contact

If at anytime you have a question, concern, or suggestion that might help the church, you may contact one of the following elected Council members.

Dave Garner 610-970-7560
 Email: dggarner@comcast.net
 Represents the Stewardship Committee

Jeff Leiby 610-327-9454
 Email: jefnrobn@yahoo.com
 Represents the Fellowship Committee

Sherry Clancy 610-323-5977
 Email: srclancy@alumni.moravian.edu
 Represents the Finance and Endowment Committee

John Ungerman 610-718-9368
 Email: john.ungerman@thrivent.com
 Represents the Property Committee

Alison O'Donnell 610-779-1119
 Email: Alison.C.O'Donnell@GSK.com
papodonnell@comcast.net

Dottie Smith 610-323-8226
 Represents the Personnel Committee

Pat Weber 610-326-5421

Mary Arnt 610-323-6176

David Hartzman 610-909-5806
 Email: Crittersdad1949@aol.com
 Represents the Evangelism Committee

Tracie Rheel 610-323-7051
 Email: tar403@yahoo.com

Ron Schafer 610-326-4814
 Email: ronslibrary@aol.com
 Represents the Christian Education Committee

Chipper Meadowcroft 610-327-0458
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