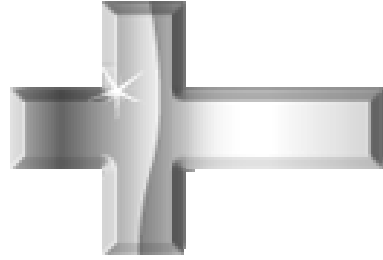


**Reformation Evangelical
Lutheran Church
3670 Perkiomen Avenue
Reading, PA 19606**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Join Us For:

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday Lenten Services at 7:00 PM

Nonprofit Organization
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The Reformation Scoop!

Reformation's Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Steven C. Claycomb
 revclay1@verizon.net (new e-mail address)

Parish Administrator: Cindy Shirey
 mail@reformationlutheran.org

Minister of Music: Kathryn Fellman
 reformationmusic@msn.com

Organist: Donald Hinkle

Sexton: Mike Schneeberger

Custodian: Margaret McDevitt

Part-Time Secretary: Pam Schneeberger

Treasurer: Rod Kline

Church Office Hours-9a.m.-12:00p.m.
 Monday—Thursday Closed Fridays
 610-779-0534
 mail@reformationlutheran.org
 www.reformationlutheran.org

West Berks Mission District
 www.westberksmissiondistrict.org

NEPS Website: www.godslove.org

ELCA Website: www.elca.org

Congregation Church Council Members

President: Steve Barnett
Vice President: James Rhoads
Secretary: Jane Humbert

Alan Blackburn	Cheryl Hadley
Robert Galbraith	Shelby Rutherford
Kurt Kohler	Becky Schaeffer
Debra Dombroski	Teri Stoddard
Lisa Sokoloff	Herb Zettlemoyer

REMINDER: Together @ Nine will continue the first Sunday of each month. Join us for good food and fellowship. Meet and greet your Reformation church family.



Greeters

March 7	Rich Hawk & Brain Mishler	8:00 a.m.	Lisa Sokoloff & Tina Stanton
March 14	Melissa Howell-Clarke & Judy Dorner	10:45 a.m.	Randy & Elyse Miller
March 21	Tim Dewalt & Cherly Hadley		Tony & Sara Lambert
March 28	Scott & Brenda Haag		Jeanne & Adam Gochnauer

Ushers

March 7	Dave Shirey, Darren Remlinger	8:00 a.m.	Dave & Tammy Moser
March 14	John & Renee Donovan	10:45 a.m.	Jim & Nancy Rhoads
March 21	Bob & Kathy Galbraith		Richard & Dolores Noble
March 28	Greg & Teri Stoddard		Matt & Alison Reinsel

Acolytes

March 7	Michael Kern	8:00 a.m.	Andrew Claycomb
March 14	Cory DiGuardi	10:45 a.m.	Christopher Rothbard
March 21	Annie Ryder		Tyler Lambert
March 28	Michael Kern		Neal Donovan

CD Recording Assistants

March 7	Scott Galbraith
March 14	Jerry Centofanti
March 21	Tim Austin
March 28	Mike Kern

CD Delivery Volunteers

Pam Schneeberger
Julie Seiz
Jane Farrell
Blanche Link

Readers

March 7	Teri Stoddard	8:00 a.m.
March 14	Carol Kohler	10:45 a.m.
March 21	Renee Donovan	
March 28	DeeDee Werner	

Tony Lambert
Bonnie Claycomb
Jim Rhoads
Jayne Phillips

Communion Assistants 8:00 a.m.

March 7	---
March 14	---
March 21	---
March 28	Carole Miller

10:45 a.m.
Kathy Galbraith
Elisha Barnett
Jeanne Gochnauer

Nursery

March 7	Sue Kern	8:00 a.m.
March 14	Anastasia Fantilli	10:45 a.m.
March 21	Muffy Reinecker	
March 28	Sue Kern	

Allison Larson
Huber Family
Katie Barnett
Robyn Shaffer & Mosers

Counters

March counters are: Harriet Clauser, Patty Matijasich and Jerry Centofanti

Opportunity House
March 18th

Food Preparers: Please meet at the church by 2:00 p.m.— JoAnn Smith, Blanche Link, Harriet Clauser, Jean Lombardi and Beth Brizek

Shopping Duty: Harriet Clauser Substitute: Audrey DiGuardi

Servers: 6:30 p.m.at church or 6:45 p.m.at the shelter—Jerry Centofanti, 9th Grade Youth with Jeanne Gochnauer, advisor
Substitute: Alison Reinsel

Bakers: Please resume baking the pineapple cake —Nadine Blackburn, Melody Burkey, Renee Donovan, Pam Hoffman and Sara Lambert

Substitute: Cindy Shirey
Volunteers please call JoAnn Smith (610-779-4031) whether you can or cannot serve.

Please Note: We are looking for help in the kitchen with preparing the meal. It only takes a hour and a half to two hours of your time. Men or women are welcome! Please consider helping with this vital ministry. Call JoAnn Smith at 610-779-4031.

MARCH SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

<u>Altar Guild</u>	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
	Cheryl Hadley	Judy Plica
	Debbie Dombroski	Elisha Barnett

Bulletin Helpers the week of (note the change)

February 28	Jane Humbert	(Thursday, 1:00 p.m. March 4)
March 7	Harriet & Russ Clauser	(Thursday, 1:00 p.m. March 11)
March 14	Joanne Reinhart	(Thursday, 1:00 p.m. March 18)
March 21	Joyce Osborne	(Thursday, 1:00 p.m. March 25)
March 28	Jane Farrell	(Thursday, 1:00 p.m. April 1)



A Lenten Challenge

As we gathered on Ash Wednesday to begin our journey through Lent we heard about the disciplines of Lent. We were invited to take up that which leads to the love of God and the love of our neighbors. We heard that night that during these 40 days we are called to engage in self examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love.

The challenge of Lent is to sacrifice something on our part as we remember Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross for us. Too often we give something up – like chocolate or soda or fast food or _____ (*fill in the blank*) – and it’s good for us, but doesn’t really impact our neighbor. **The challenge I want to issue this year is to increase your giving by \$10 a week – each week during Lent.**

You decide where it goes. It doesn’t need to be given to the same thing each week. You could increase your regular offering for these weeks – you could give the extra \$10 to Utanziwa or to Hope Lutheran or to Haiti or to a special need you see in the community. (*And don’t just figure out how many weeks are in Lent and then write one check and get it over with – that’s not the point.*) Will you take up this Lenten challenge as our Lord has taken up the cross? After all – what’s the price of two value meals a week?

Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (*Matthew 6:1-4*)



8th Annual Souper Bowl

Monday, May 3, 2010

5:30 - 7:00 pm

New Location:

Body Zone

3103 Paper Mill Road

Wyomissing, PA

\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Each attendee gets to choose a hand-made pottery bowl and feast upon soup, bread and deserts provided by over 30 area restaurants and caterers.

Tickets available March 1st at:

Boscov's Bell Tower Café

Body Zone Fromuth Tennis Panera Bread

On-line ticket sales at www.opphouse.org and www.bodyzonesports.com

For more information, go to www.opphouse.org or contact Becky Burton at 610-374-4696 ext. 231 or bburton@opphouse.org

All proceeds from Souper Bowl support the programs and services of Opportunity House.

Flowers

Please consider sponsoring flowers. Carol Shoppes Florist, 320 W. Neversink Rd, Reading, PA. is doing a wonderful job decorating the altar. The price is \$25.00 per vase. Please use an envelope and mark it flowers for the Sunday you have chosen to decorate our church with fresh flowers in honor of or in memory of someone. We would like to avoid sending out bills for the flowers. Please pay for your flowers in the month you are providing them. Thank you. The new chart is on the bulletin board outside the library. **April open dates include , April 11th and April 18th. One vase per service.** Thank you for your help in this matter.

From My Heart to Yours

Every now and then Cindy Shirey shares a copy of a devotional she reads off the internet from an organization called Christian Cyber Ministries. I 'd like to share a summery of one entitled "Three Trees". It is based on Psalm 96:12b "Let the trees of the forest rustle with praise"(NLT).

Warning! Before you start reading, you need to engage your imagination!

As the story is told, there were three tree trees on a hill in the wood talking about their hopes and dreams when they grew up. (I told you , you need your imagination!)

One wanted to be a treasure chest to be filled with gold, silver and precious gems and decorated with intricate carving so everyone could admire its beauty.

The next tree wanted to be a mighty ship for carrying kings and queens across the waters to all parts of the world. It hoped everyone would feel safe because of the strength of its hull.

The last tree wanted to grow to be the tallest and straightest tree in the forest. When people would admire it, they would think of the heavens and God and how close this tree was to reaching them. It would be the greatest tree of all time and always remembered by everyone.

Several years passed with the trees growing and praying about their dreams. When the woodsman came to harvest the trees, the first tree was selected to be sold to a carpenter who could make it into a treasure chest. The second tree was selected and sold to a shipyard to be made into a ship. The third tree was also cut down but the woodsman had no special plans for it, so he cut it into large pieces and left it alone in the dark.

Many years passed and the trees forgot their dreams. One day a man and a woman came to a barn where the woman gave birth. The parents placed the Infant in the wooden feed box that had been made from the first tree. Somehow the tree felt the importance of this moment (time for your imagination again!) and it knew it held the Greatest Treasure of all time.

Time passed and the Infant grew into a Man. He was with a group of fisherman and went into their boat with them. He was tired and laid down to take a nap. A storm arose and the Man stilled the storm by speaking, "Peace". When this happened, the tree knew it had carried the King of Kings in its boat.

Finally, someone came and got the last tree out of its dark storage place. The Man who was carrying it through the streets was being mocked by the crowds. At the top of a hill, soldiers nailed the Man to the third tree and raised it up high for all to see and watch the Man die. The tree realized that it was strong enough to stand at the top of the hill—and it was very close to God because Jesus had been crucified on it.

I share this with you during this Lenten season of reflection and invite you to think about some of your hopes, dreams and plans that haven't turned out quite the way you expected— just like the trees! How did God reshape those hopes, dreams and plans for your life? I hope you will reflect on that—and remember that He is not finished with your life yet? Rejoice and Be Glad!

Serving Jesus,



Crosses

We each have a cross to carry
Some Large and some quite small;
But the one that Jesus carried
Was the heaviest of all.

His was composed of splinters and beams
Chipped from off yours and mine.
Yes, the cross Christ carried was heavy, - - -
For us he drank bitter wine.

So carry your cross without grumbling
He suffered much more than we
As he bought us life—saving salvation
When they nailed Him to His tree.

by Catharine Reed

Church Website Pictures

We are looking for pictures of people and current or past activities for the Church website. If you have digital pictures, you can easily send them to us at: mail@reformationlutheran.org. We will format, label and post them to the website as appropriate. If you have traditional film-developed pictures, we can also scan and post them to the website, but this takes a little longer to process. All we need are the pictures [digital or traditional], identifying information about the picture[s], your name and a telephone number to return them to you as needed. Be a part of the “God is on the Loose” activities at Reformation Lutheran Church.

Exeter Sr. High School Presents... "Once Upon a Mattress"

Thursday, March 18th through Saturday March 20th at 7:30pm. Five of our own youth are in the cast! For best seats, tickets can be ordered now through any of the youth in the show. Cost: \$10/Adults and \$8/seniors (62+)/students. Please see the kiosk for further contact information. Come on out for a very funny musical and support our kids!



I always mention the *Lutheran Woman Today* magazine, but did you know there is a copy of each month's issue in the church library you can read if you haven't yet ordered your own subscription. Check out the March issue and our Bible study which continues from Romans: Chapters 12 and 13 on “RENEWAL”.

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief -- Maybe you can't make it to the Tuesday morning quilting group but you would like to be involved. We are always in need of fabric or monetary donations to purchase batting. Fabric should be washed and ironed. Most quilt tops are sewn at home and then quilted by the group. Could you cut fabric into 11" or 12" squares and/or could you sew squares into a 60" x 80" quilt top?

God's work. Our hands.

Our efforts to fund scholarships for girls in our Tanzania Partnership Parish continue. We have had a letter from Utanziwa saying that more girls have been selected for scholarships and that additional information will follow. Please consider giving a scholarship for 2010.

Prayer Shawl Ministry—We have been invited to attend a Prayer Shawl Ministry Workshop hosted by Friedens Lutheran Church, Shartlesville. It will be a time of learning, sharing and creating. The date is Saturday, May 1st, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. More details to follow.

WELCA EVENTS:

March 1st - Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

March 9th -LWR at 9:30 a.m.

**April 26th—Spring Cluster Meeting
At St Daniels, Robesonia, 6:15 p.m.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

It is hard to believe the Lenten season is here. From February 28th through March 28th, the Sunday school classes will be collecting canned goods for the Lutheran Food Pantry. We will be decorating boxes in Sunday School on Sunday, February 21st and then place the boxes in the **narthex**. We encourage the students and congregation to fill the boxes. There is a great need for the food, so we appreciate any donations. Again, the class collecting the most canned goods will be treated to a doughnut party!

We will be having a Good Friday workshop again this year. Please see page nine of the newsletter.

On **Easter Sunday**, we will have an Easter egg hunt for all of the Sunday school students at **9:50 a.m.** We will meet in the lounge and hunt for eggs. All students are invited to attend and hunt or help children find the eggs. The Jumping Juniors will be providing the eggs full of surprises, so please join us. Any questions, please see Brenda Haag.

Looking ahead for the adult class, Don Smith will begin a Bible study on the book of Ephesians beginning Sunday, April 11th. The adult Sunday School class meets in the lounge.

Thanks to all of you for supporting Sunday School and joining us during these very tough wintry weekends. We have all enjoyed the fellowship and look forward to the warmer days of Spring.

Blessings to All,

Sara Lambert and Brenda Haag

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE

THE 9TH GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASS WILL BE SERVING AT THE SHELTER ON THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH, 2010. WE WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 6:15 PM AND RETURN AT APPROXIMATELY 8 PM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING, SEE MRS. GOCHNAUER OR SIGN UP ON THE POSTER HANGING ON THE YOUTH BULLETIN BOARD.

Thank You

Dear Cindy,

First, I want you to know the amount of work you put into compiling that whole Annual Report is unbelievable. You are a special lady. It is amazing when rereading the many reports in the Annual Report booklet, how many people are involved in making our Church what it is. Forgive us all for not saying a HUGHE THANK YOU to those who give their time and talents to make the many programs happen here. I fear we are remiss in expressing ourselves and we are definitely fortunate to have all these dedicated people here at Reformation. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

. GriefShare

It's never too late to come to GriefShare! Our winter schedule has been interrupted by the weather from time to time, so even though we began in mid—January, we are less than halfway through this cycle. Each session “stands alone” so you can really come any time!

Not sure if GriefShare is for you? I invite you to come and try it. I won't be offended if you don't return, although I will be sad because I know how helpful it is! Come and check it out! Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. in the rehearsal hall. Please park and enter in the rear.

April Newsletter Deadline — March 14, 2010-Please use the green forms for newsletter and bulletin articles. They are available in the narthex and library or e-mail us: mail@reformationlutheran.org. Articles received after the due date will not be able to be included in that newsletter. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Deadline for bulletin announcements is Tuesdays at 12:00 noon.

Deadline for committee reports for council is March 10.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: please log in to wgal.com or wfmz.com. If it is a very bad storm, check Channel 69 news for the cancellations scrolling across the bottom of the screen. That is decided by Channel 69 news.

March Health Article

*“For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my **body**, whether by life or by death.”* Philippians 1:19-20 NKJV

I came across an excerpt from an article by Amal. N. Trivedi MD, MPH and Marsha Gold, ScD which ran in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, January 2010 issue. The main point of the article is that “Boosting co-pays for doctor visits and other outpatient care reduces seniors’ use of those services, but it also may have the unintended consequences of sharply increasing hospitalizations.” If seniors have to pay almost double for regular check ups, and recommended screenings, many cannot afford it and will avoid these visits. Seniors who forgo regular checkups may end up spending more time as an inpatient in the hospital. This drives up medical costs.

More than ever we all need to practice preventive medicine. With all the talk and uncertainty about health care reform, adopting a healthy lifestyle should be a priority. We need to encourage seniors and others to get regular check-ups, screenings, flu shots and most of all to live healthier lives. This means eating nutritious well-balanced meals (and for most people- eating less), and getting regular planned exercise every day. Medications need to be taken as ordered.

What if a person cannot afford to pay for the above? This is where the church can help. My prayer is that one day all churches will have a parish nurse(s) who can guide them through the system and help people get the preventive care they need. Most drug companies today have patient assistance programs, and there are Christian ministries and other organizations that can help. There are government assistance programs, but they are getting stretched and raising their co-pays. The church can start a medical assistance fund to help defray costs.

Learning how to live healthier, and about your disease(s) is of the utmost importance also. Knowledge is power. Be your own health care advocate. Start a parish nurse or health ministry in your church. Parish nurses educate and advocate for those with health problems.

Paul wanted Christ to be exalted in his body, in life or death. Pray to God for strength, guidance and in many cases self-control to adopt a healthy lifestyle. With the help of the Spirit who dwells in all believers, we can exalt Christ in our body.

Judy Laubenstein RN, BSN, CDE

Director of Senior Adult Ministries

Atlantic Northeast District

Church of the Brethren

BEAR CREEK CAMP 2010 – “Keeping the Earth”

BEAR CREEK is YOUR camp! Bear Creek is a ministry of the Northeastern and Southeastern Pennsylvania Synods of the ELCA, devoted to providing opportunities for kids and adults to deepen their relationships with God, nature, and each other. There is so much going on up there!

2010 Spring Events:

Open House – April 11th (2:00-4:00pm) – a great opportunity to come and see what Bear Creek Camp looks like and learn about what will be going on this summer.

Earth Day is April 25th – a family oriented spring day to get back in touch with nature. This celebration of God’s creation includes high ropes course, hikes, crafts, boating, climbing wall, and much more.

Wild Women Weekend – April 30-May 2 – a unique little retreat for women to relax, recharge and reconnect. Includes Bible study, worship, hiking and a great variety of activities to take your weekend where you want it to go! Some of Reformation’s ladies have been really enjoying the WWW – let me know if you’re interested in joining us this year. Bring a friend!**Memorial Day Family Camp – May 28-31** – for families of any combination. Hiking, canoeing, devotions and high/low ropes activities are great ways to kick off the summer!

Summer Camp runs from June 20 through August 14. Information and registration forms can be found on the display in the narthex. Registration is also available on line at the website. Check with me before you register, as **financial assistance** is available, including reduced costs for first-time campers and siblings.

If you have questions or are unsure of anything, ask me. I can connect you with someone who has been to the camp or provide any other information you may need.

Watch for further camp information at the display in the narthex, in the bulletins and newsletter. Please contact Alison Reinsel (610-582-0608) with any questions.

Check out the camp website and apply online at

www.bearcreekcamp.org

Many volunteer and service opportunities are available at Bear Creek Camp. It’s a great way to serve and enjoy our awesome environment at the same time! The camp is also recruiting for camp counselors, support staff, nurses and chaplains. These are paid positions and are available as both short and long-term commitments.

If you are able, please consider contributing to **Bear Creek’s Campership Fund**. All donations go directly to reducing the cost of camp for campers in need.

0.

Join Us This Lenten Season

Wednesday Evening Lenten Suppers – You are invited for food and fellowship at 5:45, before each Wednesday Evening Lenten Service. We will share soup, salad and bread on the five Wednesday evenings, beginning on February 24th. Look for more information and the sign-up sheets in the narthex. Please plan to join us!

Holden Evening Prayer Service

February 24th at 7:00 p.m.

March 3rd, 10th, 17th, and the 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Bible Study- A Bible Study on The Book of Acts will be starting on Wednesday, February 24th at 7:30 p.m. following each Lenten Service. Please call the office if you plan on attending (610-779-0534).

Maundy Thursday Service, with Holy Communion

April 1st at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

April 2nd at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Service with Holy Communion

April 4th at 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Easter Lilies and Palms

Help us to decorate our sanctuary for Easter with the purchase of a lily. Cost of a 3-4 bloom plant is \$7.75. Please use the envelopes provided in the pew rack and place in the offering plate.

Six Palms will beautify our sanctuary for both Palm Sunday and Easter Services. Rental fee for one palm plant is \$17.50. Please call the church office if interested in sponsoring a plant.



2010 WOMEN'S RETREAT OPENS FOR REGISTRATION

Forgiveness: Seeing through new eyes

Although all the major religious traditions clearly extol the **value** of forgiveness, little **practical** help is provided. Without tools and practices that allow us to align with the Spirit, to "see with new eyes," we often remain entrenched in our resentment and condemnation. This retreat is an opportunity to explore where healing is needed within us and to learn and practice concrete tools to move us forward in our lives whether we need to forgive others, ourselves, or God. Led by licensed clinical social worker and ordained minister Joanne Weiss, the retreat will be held April 23-25, at Mariawald Renewal Center, Shillington. Deadline for registration is April 1. For more information or registration materials, contact Diakon Family Life Services at 610-682-1337, 1-888-499-2699 (toll free), or visit the Events section of our website at <http://www.diakon.org/fls/NPEvents.asp>.

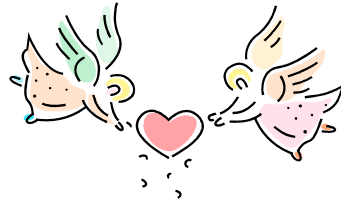
Surviving and Thriving

Bob recently separated from Carol after nearly 15 years of marriage. She is not interested in reconciling, and Bob is devastated. He called Diakon Family Life Services for information about options to help him through this difficult time. He learned that DFSL offers a support group for those dealing with separation or divorce twice yearly. As he awaits the start of the group, he chose to begin seeing a DFSL individual counselor to begin his road toward healing. Call DFSL (see below) to explore options for individual or group support.

The next support group, Surviving and Thriving after Separation or Divorce, begins on April 12th in the Wyomissing area and continues for six consecutive Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00p.m. The group, led by a counseling professional, is free of charge thanks to the generous support of the Berks County Bar Association. Call 610-682-1337 or (toll free) at 888-499-2699 for more information or to register.

Prayer List for March

Please keep the following in your prayers for the coming month. If you would like to place a name on the prayer list, please call the information to Pam Schneeberger or e-mail her at Lpm33@verizon.com. To place someone's name on the list, please be sure you have their permission to do so. We will keep their name on the list for one month. If the name needs to remain on the list for the next month, just call Pam with an update.



Reformation Family: Patti Kline, Jayne Phillips, Reynold Miller, Mildred Arner, Marion Henne, Dorothy Oswald, Grace Sanna, Marguerite Scholl, Pearl Gerth, Skyler Reed, Dorothy Arndt, Barney Bombay, Genevive Cloak, Hazel Cosentino, Sue Wood, Jay Yerger, Mae Hall, Julia Seiz, Bonnie Claycomb and Tina Stanton.

Friends of Reformation: Jordan Shickel, Ann Schaeffer, Dolores Hilbert, Paul O'Leary, Daniel Heffner, Michael, Matthew Tobias, Rita McHale, Bob Korn, Krista Stone, Tori Jones and family, Terry Keiser, Elvia Cataldo, Kate Schimmel, Woodrow Warren, Karen Heck, Melissa Bennett, Joan Hinkle, Maureen Manzella, Andrea Bolger, David, Jean Brodt, Stephanie Ernst, Paul Braun, Barbara Moyer, Mrs. Paul Kukuvka, Charles Cooke, Sharon Bingamon, Dale Reinecker, Michele Smith, Gayle Hafer, Shirley Scheinhart, Bryant Domina, Toung Phung, Shirley Scheinhart, Tracy Reifsnnyder, Terri Getz and the Family of Eva Hillegas.

The Prayer List Coordinator is Pam Schneeberger. Please call the church office at 610-779-0534 or Pam at 610-370-0790 for prayer requests.



Office Help Needed

Please consider using your gifts to volunteer time in our church office. We need help in all areas. Some examples are answering phones, filing, typing newsletter articles, folding bulletins, putting together the newsletter for mailing, calling weekly service participants and doing general office duties. We also need help with our website. Call the church office with any times that you can help.

Good Friday

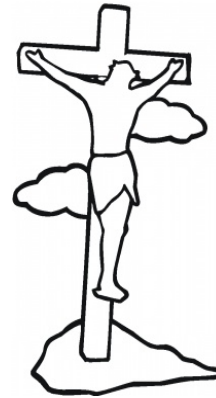
Workshop

For children of all ages with an adult partner

Friday, April 2nd

Beginning at 10:00 AM

Pizza lunch following at 12:00 PM



Drama, Music, and Art

Interpret, sing, and create!

God's Work. Our Hands.

Help create a gift for our shut-ins

And a special visit from

Mary, mother of Jesus

Please *sign-up* on the kiosk in the gathering space.

Bring a friend!

WITH HEART FELT APPRECIATION

Thank you so very much for your support of the various ministries at Hope Lutheran Church. The children at Hope's Hangout were thrilled to receive such wonderful Christmas gifts. Your generosity brought smiles to their faces. Hope's Hangout is going well with an average of 40 children attending. We are truly grateful for your ongoing support.

The number of households served by the food pantry has increased steadily since January of 2009; however, our numbers were down in December because we only distributed three times due to Christmas. Below are the number of households served in 2009:

January – 203	February – 201	March – 225	April – 222	May - 227
June – 222	July – 227	August – 244	September – 280	October 241
November - 257	December – 207			

In 2009 Hope Lutheran received and distributed 129,287 pounds of food at a cost of \$8,946.46. The Greater Berks Food Bank value was \$169,628.86. We served a total of 2,756 households for a total of 12,957 people. Distributing clothing to our food pantry clients has become a vital ministry. We appreciate your taking the time to sort the clothing that you so generously donate to our food pantry clients.

This past year we had a Reusable Christmas Decorations and Gifts Bazaar. Thank you for all the beautiful items that you donated. The children at Hope's Hangout shopped on December 2nd and were so happy to be able to purchase gifts for their family. They had big smiles on their faces as they walked out with their beautifully wrapped Christmas presents. On Saturday, December 4th people in the neighborhood came to shop. It was a huge success and a wonderful way to reach out to the neighborhood. All the proceeds went toward the new heating system at Hope.

Your support has helped us to continue to provide these vital ministries. The neighborhood children have a safe place to go after school where they receive help with homework, enjoy various activities and eat a hot meal. The neighborhood families receive much needed food and clothing. Thank you for walking side by side with us to touch the lives of so many in a positive and caring way.

Lorraine Nicol

Coordinator of Social and Learning Ministry

News from the Dance and Dramatic Movement Ministry

On **Palm Sunday**, we would like to present the Passion Play again, along with the palm procession. We will probably begin recruiting in March; but if you know you'd like to do it again, please express your interest to Barry or Anndria Ciabattoni.

On **Easter Sunday**, any children who are interested may join in the Butterfly Parade. We will 'fly' butterflies through the Nave during the processional. After that, the children may return to their seats with their parents.

Contact Anndria Ciabattoni (610-370-1065 or Anndria@ptd.net)

CHERUB CHOIR will start practice again on **March 1st**, at 6:15 p.m.

BEGINNER RINGERS will start practice at 7:00 p.m. on **March 1st**.

March 21-Game & Pizza Day

Everyone is invited to join us for fun and fellowship Sunday afternoon, March 21 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Drinks and snacks will be provided during the afternoon, and pizza will be served between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. Look for a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in March. Come and learn some new games or play some old, familiar ones, or bring your favorite game.

Movie Night

Friday, March 19th, 2010 is movie night at 6:30 p.m.

Feel free to invite family, friends or neighbors who might enjoy this event. Come out and enjoy a movie, share in fellowship and good conversation, and maybe even bring a box of popcorn.

Our next feature this month is Broken Arrow(1950), Tom Jeffords, a frontiersman, and Chochise, an Apache Indian Chief, become friends and arrange a truce to stop the Indian War. Based on a true story, this is a western with a story of romance, intelligence, and taste. Starring: James Stewart, Jeff Chandler, and Debra Paget.

