



GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

The Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

June 9, 2010
Volume 49, Issue 26

June 13, 2010

9:30 A.M.

Worship Service

Communion

Bibles to H. S. Seniors

Seraph Choir Sings

10:45 A.M.

ELEVATOR GROUNDBREAKING!

The Trustees will hold a groundbreaking service immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall. This brief service will mark the beginning of the installation of the church elevator. Please join your church family for this significant event in the life of our church.

12:00 P.M.

CHURCH SCHOOL PICNIC

12 noon until 3 p.m. at the GEHRINGS' BACKYARD in Sewell. We will barbecue dogs and burgers, have games and puzzles, and enjoy the side dishes and fellowship that everyone brings. Directions are in the Chapel, narthex, and at the Centre St. entrance.

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Sunday, June 20, 2010

Father's Day

9:30 A.M.

Worship Service

11:00 A.M.

Summer Church School for Adults

COVENANT PLAYERS: The world-renowned Covenant Players Ministry of Faith through drama will present a special worship service on Wednesday, June 16 at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to this family-oriented presentation. Refreshments will also be served.

BEREAVEMENT CLASS will be offered for those who have suffered loss or those going through difficult times on June 20, June 27 and July 4 at 11:00 a.m. in the Adult Forum Room. The Class will be led by Milt Fredericks. If interested or if you have any questions, you may contact the Church Office (845-1244) or Milt at home (423-5692).

From the Pastor...

My congregation is a warm and open group of people. My congregation is friendly. My congregation is delighted to have visitors. My congregation is thrilled to welcome new people. I have heard these types of statements at every congregation that I have served as Minister of Word and Sacrament. Churches typically believe that they are warm and open or friendly or do want visitors or are thrilled to welcome new people into the fellowship, but usually it is with certain criteria attached.

The expectation is that new people will look like us, new people will sing the same hymns we sing, new people will want worship the same way we like worship; but this is not the case. Congregations today need to be prepared for a variety of different people to enter into the community. The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury, in its Mission Study, stated that it wanted to draw young adults: *While the greater northern Gloucester County community grows, membership in The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury slides. We still have a viable base from which to work and build, but it is dominated by those over 50. Those aged 27-47, form 30% of the community but only 6% of the congregation. Reaching out to this segment of the community will require changes in the way we communicate our message and, perhaps, in the programs we offer and the style of our worship.*

We need to think about how we welcome and receive people, especially young adults, into our congregation. I recently read an article by Sarah Drummond entitled "Setting the Welcome Thermostat". In this article, it described traits of congregations that genuinely and sincerely welcomed young adults into the church. What does it take for a church to be attractive to a younger adult? The article by Drummond talked about the tensions that the church needs to hold to welcome in the next generation into the church. The three tensions for churches seeking to reach the 27-47 year-olds include the following:

Consider how we might be flexible while honoring the importance of commitment. That is, remember our past but don't get stuck in our past;

Welcoming but not desperate-sounding, that is, a desire to have new people without being needy;

Overt about theology while making room for doubt or sharing our beliefs and leaving space for questions.

These three areas need to be wrestled with by the congregation so that the next generation might come to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Are we willing to be open, friendly? Are we willing to be flexible, welcoming and faithful?

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Philip W. Oehler, Sr.

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WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION PICNIC:

All women of the church are invited to the annual Picnic on Tuesday, June 15 at noon at the home of Jean Hills (15 Stone Ridge Drive, Mickleton). Bring a dish to share. Call Jean at 224-1817 if you have any questions.

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES:

Please notify the Church Office and let us know if you are/have graduated this year so we can share your success in a future Newsletter.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

will be August 7 - 14. We will drive to West Virginia and be engaged in flood recovery work. You can help by donating supplies. There is a sign-up sheet in the Chapel.

CARE CONNECTORS:

Thank you to all dedicated Care Connectors for doing a job WORTH doing. Your efforts and work over the years have been greatly appreciated. May God bless you! Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 19 at 12:00 noon for a Care Connector meeting after church to reorganize this important ministry.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Summer Church School: The Christian Education Task Force has decided to have Summer Church School on Wednesday evenings. Plan to bring your family for an early supper and a special event from June 23 through August 4. The first night, June 23rd, will be a Wii Night. Families are encouraged to come for supper at 6 p.m. and then all are invited to play games on the Wii's which will be set up around the church in different places. The next five Wednesdays will be a Family Camp VBS series featuring trips to Egypt to meet Joseph and learn about his life. The plan is to have two intergenerational "families" doing the VBS story and crafts time and a separate adult learning time. Any "Egyptian" style things which we can borrow to decorate our space or use for costumes may be brought to the Church School Office. We will have dinner at 6 p.m., worship together at 6:30, and then be off to either a preschool or a school-age family unit or to the adult class. Each family group will have kids and adults participating in the Joseph story and in a crafts project. We will gather back together to sing and be on our way home by 8 p.m. The last night, August 4th, will be a Bowling Party Night. *Mark the Wednesdays on your calendar!* Registration is essential so that we know how many to prepare for. The forms are in the narthex and the Chapel and will also be on the website. *Volunteers are needed.* There is a sign-up sheet in the Chapel if you can help.

Summer Wednesdays:

June 16 - 7:00 p.m.: Covenant Players
June 23 - Wii Family Night
June 30 - 6:00 p.m.: VBS
July 7 - 6:00 p.m.: VBS
July 14 - 6:00 p.m.: VBS
July 21 - 6:00 p.m.: VBS
July 28 - 6:00 p.m.: VBS
August 4: Family Bowling Night

Adult Education Sundays at 11 A.M.:

Date	Topic	Leader
June 20	Bereavement	Milt Fredericks
June 27	Bonhoeffer	Phil Oehler
July 4	Christian Country?	Phil Oehler
July 11	Christian Music	Jack Hill
July 18	Report from General Assembly	
July 25	Becoming a Good Samaritan - New World Vision/John Ortberg DVD	
Aug. 1	Powerful DVD short takes - Nooma, Convergence	

2010 PLAG SCHOLARSHIP: Congratulations to this year's recipients, Kimberly Barrett and Sarah Bessey!

Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries will have Vacation Bible School during the week of July 26 through July 30 from 9 A.M. until noon. The program will be for ages 4 years old through 6th grade and will be held at the Parish Hall at St. Patrick's Church. We need volunteers: teens and adults to help each day.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION COMMISSIONING CLASS is now forming and will start in September. We are reaching out to everyone who is eligible to take part in this Class. Any youth who will be in 7th or 8th grades this fall (or older if never confirmed) is invited to be a part of this adventure. Why join? Throughout our time together, we will learn about God's love for each of us, who Jesus is, how we fit into the Church as members, and we will experience the fun of Christian fellowship. This is a nine-month process of growth, introspection, sharing, faith-building, and giving. The participants in this Class are nurtured by an Elder and prayed for by the church. They will learn to look at worship in a new way. Students will keep a journal during the year recording their thoughts, insights and feelings, special lessons, favorite Bible verses, and pictures of our escapades. This process encourages the youth to ask questions, discuss their doubts, and hopefully, find answers they will hold firm for a lifetime. Come, join in and experience this time of new awakening and growth and FUN. Yes, we have fun - starting with our 24-hour retreat in September. Get your reservation in! A mailing giving more details went out June 1 to all eligible youth. If you did not receive this information, please call the Church Office (845-1244). Questions? Call Bunny or Chick Dougherty (845-8149).

PARENTS - Give your teenager an opportunity to make a mature commitment to Jesus within a supportive church community that will add strength and hope to their life foundation for years to come. What a blessing!

YOUTH - Come hang out with your friends and make new friends. Accept this opportunity to grow. New ways to cope with Jr. High "ouches". This could be one of the best years of your life! WOW :0)

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Tom Dolan at home, Elsie Camplin in Magee Rehab (Phila.), Jane McKinney in Manor Care, Bob Storer, Sharyn Babe in Florida, Hope Blasko, and Dee and Dave Tanzola. A reminder to keep our military personnel in your prayers: JJ Cunningham, Ron Goepel, Bill Borders, David Wietz, James Gallagher, and Clayton Kelly.

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Keith Doughten (6/13) and Mary Lynne Diehlman (6/20)

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: JUNE 13 - 19 2010

Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service/Communion
	12:00 PM	Church Picnic at the Gehrings'
Monday:	10:00 AM	Bible Study at Pitman Manor
	6:00 PM	Sr. High Youth Group
	7:30 PM	Trustees
Tuesday:	12:00 PM	Women's Association Picnic
Wednesday:	12:30 PM	Men's Luncheon
	7:00 PM	Summer Vespers - Covenant Players
Thursday:	6:00 PM	Jr. High Youth Group
Saturday:	9:00 AM	Church Clean-up Day
	10:00 AM	Youth Car Wash

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	11:00 AM	Summer Adult Church School
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Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
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