



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF HUMMELSTOWN

BELFRY ECHOES

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FEBRUARY 2010

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

Accept the Gift!

The group of people who are working to put together the all-congregational “Lenten Journey” for the United Church of Christ of Hummelstown sat together wondering how to get more people to participate. After a period of brainstorming, one person said, “I don’t know why we’re feeling like we have to make a hard sell to people. What we are offering people is a wonderful gift!” Sometimes we spend so much time wandering through the trees that we miss the forest, don’t we?

The “Lenten Journey” is a marvelous gift that offers each of us individually and all of us as a community of faith the opportunity to experience the essence of Christianity:

- ⇒ Forty days of consistent, discipline prayer,
- ⇒ The opportunity to explore and grow in faith,
- ⇒ Participation in a unifying community experience.

Those are three key elements of Christian discipleship that add blessing to life.

The book of Acts tells how Jesus’ first followers met regularly with one another after his ascension (Acts 2:43-47). They devoted themselves to daily prayers, gathered in small groups to share their faith, and committed themselves to each other. The Holy Spirit was with them and blessed them.

The “Lenten Journey” is your opportunity to follow, for forty days, the example of Jesus’ first disciples. The Journey starts on Sunday, February 21st. Call the church office today if you need more information, or to indicate your desire to participate.

I can’t imagine not accepting this gift!

Change in Sunday Schedule for Lent

WORSHIP — 8:00 am and 10:45 am (NOTE: Different Time)

LENTEN JOURNEY — 9:00 am to 10:30 am (Small Group Gatherings)

ASH WEDNESDAY



Ash Wednesday (February 17) and the Season of Lent (February 18 through April 3) are often thought of as a somber day and a stark season. The day and the season can, however, be rich with meaning and filled with spiritual growth. This year's invitation to join in a **Lenten Journey** (see page 1 of this newsletter) makes that possibility even more likely.

Plan to attend the February 17th ***Ash Wednesday service, at 7:30 pm***, in our sanctuary. Begin the process of Unbinding Your Heart, open yourself to receive the Love of God and the gift of a deeper faith.

In the spirit of making our Lenten Journey a unifying community event, we will begin the evening with ***a simple meal shared together at 6:00 pm***. Bring a crock pot of soup, a loaf of bread, or a dessert to share.

We will be joined by our sisters and brothers from Redeemer UCC in Hershey. Their choir will share an anthem specially selected for the occasion.

LENTEN OFFERING for CHURCH CAMP

Hartman Center, located in Milroy, PA, is our church's outdoor ministry camp. Since 1964, it has served as the site for summer camping, fall retreats, winter getaways, and more. The camp is owned by our church and the churches of the Penn Central Conference of the United Church of Christ.



Cabin 5, at the camp, is the responsibility of the Harrisburg Association of which Hummelstown Church is a member. Cabin 5 is in desperate need of a make-over. The most important part of the needed renovation is to update the original bathroom. The estimate cost of materials is \$15,000. To date, the churches of the Association have raised \$12,184.

The 2010 Lenten Offering will be directed to support this project. Please give generously so that new generations of young and old might continue to experience this joy of outdoor ministry.

LENT AT HUMMELSTOWN UCC

ASH WEDNESDAY — FEBRUARY 17

Soup and Bread Supper — 6:00 pm

Bring a crock pot of soup, a loaf of bread, or a dessert to share, as we start off our Lenten journey together.

Worship — 7:30 pm

Beginning the Lenten Journey, our friends from Redeemer UCC will join us.

ALL-CONGREGATIONAL LENTEN JOURNEY

A small group experience for everyone — please join us!

February 21 through Easter Sunday, small groups will meet at:

- **Sunday Mornings at 9:00-10:30 am**
(Light continental breakfast will be served at 8:45 am)
- **Tuesday Mornings from 10:00-11:30 am**
- **Tuesday Evenings from 7:00-9:30 pm**

MAUNDY THURSDAY — APRIL 1

7: 30 pm - Worship and Communion

We'll gather around the Table of our Lord and remember Jesus' last meal with his disciples.

GOOD FRIDAY — APRIL 2

Worship at Redeemer in Hershey at 7:30 pm

The Youth will lead us in this service which reflects on Jesus' suffering and death.

(Redeemer Church is located at 500 West Chocolate Avenue in Hershey.)

EASTER SUNDAY — APRIL 4



Sunrise Service	6:30 am
Easter Breakfast	7:45 am
Lenten Journey	9:00 am
Easter Communion	10:45 am



Women's Fellowship Meetings

FEBRUARY 9 AT 7:00 PM

The ladies will be making pillow cases for the pediatric floor at Hershey Medical Center as well as planning for the Mother/Daughter Banquet in May.



MARCH 16 AT 6:00 PM

ANNUAL COVERED DISH BINGO NIGHT

Be sure to mark your calendars for a time of great fun and delicious food.



Hummelstown Youth Group

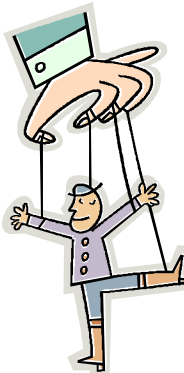
Puppet Ministry Schedule

FEBRUARY

14 — ICE SKATING AFTER LUNCH WITH BOTH GROUPS



28 — TBA



MARCH

14 — PROGRAM TBA

28 — BOWLING WITH BOTH GROUPS



Senior Citizens Community Meals

Second Thursday of Month

4:00 to 6:00 pm

Anyone 55 years and older is welcome to come and enjoy a delicious meal in Fellowship Hall of Hummelstown United Church of Christ. Donations accepted.

February 11 MENU

Breaded Pork
Mashed Potatoes
Vegetable Salad Dessert



March 11 MENU

Lasagna
Vegetable
Salad Dessert

HAITIAN RELIEF

Like people of goodwill around the country and the world, the members of the United Church of Christ of Hummelstown have been generous in their support of our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

On Sunday, January 17, just days after the earthquake in Haiti, four young people passed offering baskets during the 10:30 worship



service, collecting \$970. That offering was then matched, dollar for dollars, by a contribution from the Barbara Fisher Charity, making the one-day contribution \$1,940.

The children and youth of the Sunday School also participated in the effort to assist the people of Haiti by collecting items and filling hygiene kits that will be shipped by Church World Services. To date (1/27/10) 38 kits have been assembled.

The need is still great, as it will take years for the people of this poverty stricken nation to rebuild. You are encouraged to continue supporting the relief effort, through the United Church of Christ of Hummelstown. For additional information about the work of the UCC, related to the earthquake in Haiti, go to www.ucc.org and find the appropriate link, or contact our church office (566-8893).

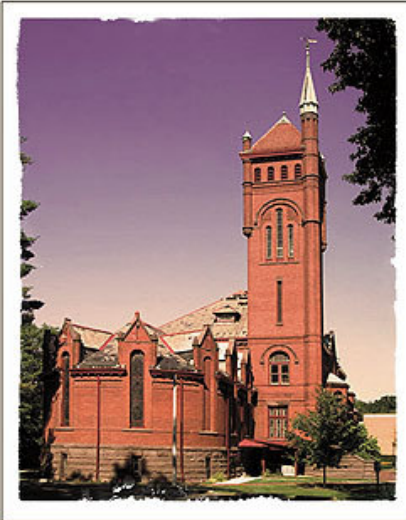
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of [Our Church's Wider Mission \(OCWM\)](#), is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries.

The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. Money donated through last years OGHS offering provided funds for the initial response to disasters like the Haitian earthquake.

The OGHS offering will be received on Sunday, March 14, 2010.



Lancaster Theological Seminary

Lancaster Theological Seminary, one of the UCC's seven seminaries, has announced that its **Leadership Now: Spiritual Formation With Youth** program has received a multi-year grant of \$939,000 from Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Impressed with the work the program has accomplished over the past eight years, Lilly not only funded the full request but also increased the award by \$175,000. The Endowment's program officer has noted that Leadership Now is among the top programs of its kind in the United States.

The grant will be used to expand programming that includes an annual summer leadership academy and cross-cultural trip to another nation.

Dr. Riess Potterveld, LTS President, says the grant will support Leadership Now for three to four years while the school continues to build its endowment.

"During the past eight years, we have worked directly with over 800 youth from our region, and many of these participants in Leadership Now have engaged in the program for multiple years," says Potterveld. "All of them have been encouraged to integrate their faith into their sense of vocation. We are constantly amazed by the idealism and passionate faith of the youth we encounter. They see the world and are intent upon making it a better place."

The mission of Leadership Now is to empower youth to live out their commitments as people of faith with an emphasis on equipping them for leadership roles in church and society. Its impact is apparent in the lives of youth participants and the congregations in which those youths share their creative gifts.

To learn more about Leadership Now, log on to www.leadershipnow.org.

“HEART POWER”

“Heart Power” is an American Heart Association program presented by the Congregational Health Ministry for young people in kindergarten through 8th Grade. The program includes songs, games, and activities focused on what they can do to maintain a healthy heart, and is divided into three age groups.

We presented this program in 2001, and got rave reviews from the kids! - Bring your friends along too!

When: SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2010 - Lunch at 12:00 noon;
Program 1:00 till 2:00 PM.

Where: Fellowship Hall

Lunch will be served to those registered who are staying after the 10:30 AM worship service. There is no charge but registration is requested by Wednesday, March 3rd.

For questions or to register, please call the Church Office (566-8893),
Ruth Bernitsky (566-2997), or Grace Laubach (361-4545),

OR

Register on the Sign-Up Sheet on the bulletin board,

OR

Sign Up below and place in the offering plate.



----- detach here -----

NAME: _____

AGE: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

STAYING FOR LUNCH? YES _____ NO _____



BIRTHDAYS



FEBRUARY

MARCH

- 1 Danielle Rutherford
- 4 Robert Schmoyer
- 9 Kenneth Robinson
- 11 Mary Buffington
Brenda Owens
- 13 John Hocker, Jr.
- 14 Mary Horst
Owen Shumway
Donna Jean Straw
- 15 Rebecca Hull
- 17 John Horn
- 26 Steven Lutz
- 27 Keri Flickinger



- 1 Joel Henery
- 2 Cara Anderson
- 4 Rev. Dr. Claude Dencler
- 5 William Shumway
- 6 Morgan Owsley
- 9 Debora Matthews
- 15 Tammy Cogan
- 18 Rev. Manley Layman
- 20 Nancy Robinson
- 22 Keith Heisey
- 23 Richard Lyter
- 24 Thelma Shumway
Patricia Wrightstone
Johnathan Hull
- 26 Mary Hummel
- 28 Cathy Kolakowski
Linda Lutz
- 30 Maryellen Parmer
Jessica Heckman
Shane More
- 31 James Deibler
Richard Barnet

GROWING STRONGER CHURCHES 2010

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

9:30 AM — 3:15 PM

COLONIAL PARK UCC, HARRISBURG

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE — MONDAY,
MARCH 1**

Penn Central Conference offers a day of workshops with new ideas and ways to make your congregation stronger. Carpool together, enjoy some fellowship time and let everyone select the workshops that interest them.

Below is a sampling of workshops:

Youth Ministry 101 — Let's go back to the basics of youth ministry and how even small churches can have a youth ministry program.

Building Cooperation in the Church — Tools that help church members understand one another and work cooperatively.

The Legal Aspects of Being a Church — A conversation about areas of confidentiality, property matters, employment issues, preserving records, and policy implementation. Bring your questions.

Spirituality — Learn ways your congregation can be involved in the Conference-wide spiritual pilgrimage this spring.

Contact the church office for more information or visit the Conference website www.pccucc.org.








YOUTH LEADER CALLED

Andrew Wenger has been called to give leadership to the middle and high school youth groups. He is a graduate of Elizabethtown College, with a B.A. in Religious Studies. With a lifetime involvement in the church, experience working on youth ministry teams, and a passion about helping kids nurture and develop their relationship with God, Andrew seems like the perfect person to lead our Youth Ministry effort.

Please welcome Andrew the next time you see him in church.

February 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:00 Vitality	3 7:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	4	5	6
7 9:15 -1st Sunday Circle Boy Scout Sunday Bell Choir	8	9 7:00 Women's Fellowship	10 7:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	11 4:00-6:00 Senior Citizen Meal	12 Lincoln's Birthday 	13
14 Valentine's Day Communion 	15  President's Day	16	17 6:00 Supper 7:30 Ash Wednesday Service	18	19	20
21 9:00-10:30 Lenten Journey	22 Washington's Birthday 7:00 Caring Friends 	23 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Lenten Journey	24 Flag Day 7:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	25	26	27
28 9:00-10:30 Lenten Journey						

February 7 & 14: **Worship** at 8:00 and 10:30 am **Sunday School** for all ages at 9:15 am
 February 21 & 28: **Worship** at 8:00 and **10:45** am **Lenten Journey**—9:00 to 10:30

Participants in Worship Services for February 2010

	February 7	February 14	February 21	February 28
Greeters	Joan Spire	June Trocik	Lynn Berkheimer Julie Berkheimer	Pearl Dunkleberger Kim Drawbaugh
Ushers	Dave Heckman DJ Heckman Jeff Kolakowski Jeff Kolakowski, Jr.	Ken Robinson Nancy Robinson Albert Kolaric Sam MacElwee	Robert Book June Trocik Tom Whitehaus Barb Cimino	Rich Hebel Mark Fisher Jim Landvater Charles Rhoads
Acolyte	Adam Horn	Madison Kolakowski	Kane Schrum	Jeff Kolakowski, Jr.
Liturgist	Boy Scouts	David Heckman	Grace Laubach	John Horn
Nursery	Joe Owsley Jenn Owsley	Christy Fisher Halley Cole	Carol Hebel Rebecca Landvater	Shannon Williard Hannah Landvater
Jr. Church	Donna Dencler Halley Cole	Julie Whitehaus Olivia Owens	Chris Landvater Hannah Landvater	Rich Hebel Quinn Schrum

Participants in Worship Services for March 2010

	March 7	March 14	March 21	March 28
Greeters	Rich Hebel	William Kuhn Mary Kuhn	David Heckman Sheila Heckman	Grace Laubach
Ushers 10:30	John Horn Adam Horn Xavier Stewart Donna Stewart	Dave Heckman DJ Heckman Jeff Kolakowski Jeff Kolakowski, Jr.	Stephanie Heckman Fern Heckman Nancy Vogelsong Mary Horst	Ken Robinson Nancy Robinson Albert Kolaric Sam MacElwee
Acolyte	Connor Schrum	Keely Schrum	Adam Horn	Madison Kolakowski
Liturgist	Carole Hoover	Sheila Heckman	Keith Schrum	Donna Dencler
Nursery	Christy Fisher Emily Hasse	Carol Hebel Olivia Owens	Joe Owsley Jenn Owsley	Shannon Williard Quinn Schrum
Jr. Church	Joe Owsley Jenn Owsley	Donna Dencler Adam Horn	Julie Whitehaus Halley Cole	Chris Landvater Olivia Owens

March 7 to April 4: **Worship** at 8:00 and **10:45** am

Lenten Journey—9:00 to 10:30 am

April 11 to April 25: **Worship** at 8:00 and 10:30 am

Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 am

Participants in Worship Services for April 2010

	April 4	April 11	April 18	April 25
Greeters	June Trocki	Joan Spire	Lynn Berkheimer Julie Berkheimer	Pearl Dunkleberger Kim Drawbaugh
Ushers 10:30	Rich Hebel Mark Fisher Jim Landvater Charles Rhoads	Robert Book June Trocik Tom Whitehaus Barb Cimino	John Horn Adam Horn Xavier Stewart Donna Stewart	Stephanie Heckman Fern Heckman Nancy Vogelsong Mary Horst
Acolyte	Kane Schrum	Jeff Kolakowski, Jr.	Connor Schrum	Adam Horn
Liturgist	Jenn Owsley	Samantha Sierra	Lori Jo Whitehaus	Thelma Shumway
Nursery	Christy Fisher Adam Horn	Joe Owsley Jenn Owsley	Carol Hebel Julie Whitehaus	Shannon Williard Connor Schrum
Jr. Church	Donna Dencler Hannah Landvater	Rich Hebel Adam Horn	Joe Owsley Jenn Owsley	Julie Whitehaus Quinn Schrum

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Claude Dencler, Pastor
Carin Schrum, Church Organist
Lori Jo Whitehaus, Choir Director
Stu Lutz and Keith Schrum, Church Sextons
Linda Grubb, Church Secretary

COMMITTEE LEADERS

Consistory—John Horn **Stewardship & Finance**—Carol Martin
Treasurer—Dusty Rhoads **Building & Grounds**—Bill Kuhn
Caring Friends/Christian Outreach—Carole Hoover
Christian Education—Bill Shumway **Church & Ministry**—Elspeth Williams
Church Growth & Vitality—Donna Dencler **Health Ministry**—Bob Harpel
Good Samaritan Ministry Team—Robert Harner
Long Rang Planning—Joan Spire & Gail Kulp
Spiritual Council—Dusty Rhoads **Women’s Fellowship**—Stephanie Heckman
Worship & Music—Thelma Shumway **Youth/Puppet Ministry**—Rich Hebel

Change in Sunday Schedule for Lent
WORSHIP — 8:00 am and 10:45 am (NOTE: Different Time)
LENTEN JOURNEY — 9:00 am to 10:30 am (Small Group Gatherings)

Hummelstown PA
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United Church of Christ
104 East Main Street
Hummelstown PA 17036
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