

The St. James Connector

APRIL, 2010

St. James United Church of Christ
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Edited by Charlotte Cialone

Holy Week Begins
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Begins March 28th

March 28th marks the beginning of Holy Week. Our Palm Sunday Service is always a moving celebration, as once again we are invited to walk with Jesus through those last days of His ministry here on earth. It's a day that is filled with celebration, but that celebration is bitter sweet, for we know what lies ahead. As usual, Palm fronds will be given out as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the start of the very first Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday
Maundy
Thursday Maundy
Thursday April 1st - 7:30
pm

We will recall the Last Supper Jesus had with His disciples, and be reminded of those last hours of Christ's life here on earth - and the flight of His disciples during our service

of Tenebrae. This is a very special candlelight communion service! Twelve members of the congregation will serve as readers and 4 as acolytes - interested? Please sign up on the bulletin board

Good Friday
April 2nd at 7:00 p.m.

The service will be held at Hamburg Presbyterian. We will also be joined by the Hamburg Methodist Church this year. Please plan to participate in this meaningful service.

Holy Saturday - Great Vigil of Easter

The Great Vigil of Easter is an ancient liturgy of the church with deep roots in scripture. The vigil begins with the service of light. A tall paschal candle is used to represent Jesus Christ. The vigil continues with the Service of the Word in which readings from scripture remind us of all that God has done for the human family in preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ. The service of water follows in which we renew our baptismal vows. With the sprinkling of water, each of us is reminded of our own baptism.

The Great Vigil of Easter concludes with a celebration of Holy Communion. Please join us for this special Easter Vigil!

Easter Sunday -
Easter Sunday -
Easter Sunday - April 4th
- 10:00 a.m.

Our Easter Service is always special, and this year is no exception. The music will be spectacular, and Rev. Matlack is preparing a special sermon titled "An Easter Gift: The Joy of Forgiving as We Have Been Forgiven!" Come and help us celebrate the special gift that Christ has brought into our lives. Easter is, of course, the highlight of the church year. Having gone through the darkness and despair of Good Friday, we come to the joy of the resurrection. Come celebrate with us! Invite your friends! For Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

Easter Sunday Childcare

In addition to the special enrichment time, there will be CHILDCARE for children thru age 4 during worship. Just

bring your child/children to the pre-school room located down the hall from the lounge. Volunteers are needed to help

ST. JAMES SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications for the St. James Scholarship and Raymond Riefler Scholarship are now available in the rack outside the office door. Applications include a list of guidelines.

Applications for the St. James scholarship must be submitted for approval **NO LATER THAN JUNE 1st**.

PAULA PFISTER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Graduating high school seniors, who have served in the Christian Education program at St. James during their high school years, including their senior year, are eligible to apply for the Paula Pfister Christian Ed Scholarship.

Applications will be mailed out this spring to those that are eligible to apply. The completed applications **MUST** be turned in to the church office for approval **NO LATER THAN, JUNE 1ST**

SERVERS

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 27th at 1 p.m. at a local restaurant. Check the bulletin for the location.

Mark you calendar for May 25th, the date of our annual Servers Tea

SEWING MISSION

Our next meeting is at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, April 13th. We meet in the Assembly Hall. Bring a sandwich for lunch and desert will be provided by Margaret Paget.

If you are interested in the

projects we make, please come and join us.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will have a bible study on April 9th and 23rd in the Lounge entitled Praying In Color. If you are word weary, stillness challenged, easily distracted, or just in need of a new way to pray, give praying in color a try. We will provide paper, black pens, colored pencils and markers. You don't have to be an artist to learn a new way to memorize scripture, practice *lectio divina*, and praying in other ways.

Perhaps you would like to use a computer with drawings and pictures. Come and we will be sharing ideas.

DISHWASHER

Our new dishwasher is up and running. Thank you Horst Kirsten, Don Pfister and John Lindstrom for all the work you have done. You have made many ladies and TLC very happy.

KITCHEN WISHLIST

Our kitchen could use some dish towels and trivets for the kitchen. Thank you.

CHARACTER COUNCIL

April – Creativity v. Underachievement

FOOD PANTRY

April 4 Canned juice and Mixes
April 11 Dry Milk
April 18 Cake, muffin mix
April 25 Canned vegetables



Our congregation is now more likely to be found sitting in front of a computer screen instead of checking messages on their phones. In order to get the "word out" we will be setting up e-mailing and using facebook. The e-mails will be broken down into two categories:

Do you want a weekly update of the activities going on in the congregation? If there is a cancellation of an activity or a change in an activity do you want to be notified about?

YES NO

Do you want to be notified by e-mail about a death in the congregation? YES NO Please circle the above events about which you want notification and return to the office.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Registry

Death:

Richard Klein

Born: June 24, 1943

Died: February 19, 2010

Service: February 25, 2010

Meditative Lenten Walk

During the Lenten Season you are invited to "Walk The Easter Path". Discover and explore the steps that Jesus walked, following in his footsteps, footsteps that were marked on earth long ago, and continue to lead us today.

During the Lenten Season there will be a series of stations for everyone to explore. Each of the stations will have symbols and reminders to stop and look at and to reflect on the path that Jesus walked.

Please take the time to visit each station alone or with your family or class. Stop, pray and reflect on the meaning of each station. The walk will be made available throughout the Lenten Season until a week following Easter.

LENTEN HANDOUTS

The Board of Christian Education is offering special Lenten materials to the families of St. James. Please be sure to check the basket near the bulletin board and help yourself to any of the items that interest you.

Paula Pfister Dessert Auction

Our auction was held on Sunday, March 28th and the Board of CE says THANK YOU to everyone who supported our efforts by baking, donating their time or bidding on any of the desserts.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Greetings and Easter good wishes to everyone.

Many thanks to the choirs and instrumentalists for their music offerings during this Lenten and Easter season. Please consider participating with any of the choirs at any time. We also invite singers and instrumentalists to join in worship on Special Music Sundays, the last Sunday of each month. Let your voice be heard!!

Chancel Rehearsals:

9 a.m. 4/4 Easter Sunday with
Brass

No choir 4/11

9:15 w/u 4/18;

11 rehearsal 4/18

11 rehearsal 4/25

Cherub and Youth

Rehearsals 7:00/7:30

Wednesday April 7, 14, 28

No reh 4/21 (Spring Break)

The cherub singers are preparing Scripture songs and will join with the youth singers on Mother's Day in May.

Come and join in the fun of singing.

There are opportunities for youth/teens to prepare special music for worship. See me as soon as you can so we can work together.

Christina Shrewsbury

Music Director

Board of Christian Education Meeting

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 6th at 7 p.m. in the Resource Room.

Please call the church office (649-6171) if you cannot attend the meeting.

Easter Sunday Enrichment Time

There will *NOT* be any regular church school classes on Sunday, April 4th (Easter Sunday). Instead there will be a special Enrichment Time following the children's sermon and it will be held in the Horton Lounge. All children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to attend. We will be sharing a special Easter Lesson and Activity. Children may be picked up in the lounge following worship. Speak to Karen if you would like to volunteer to help.

Easter Egg Hunt

Following worship on Easter there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children through 5th grade. If you are interested in helping with the egg hunt please see Karen Reinagel. This has been traditionally held outside but is dependent on the weather. It will be announced during the service where the egg hunt is being held. Volunteers are needed to help.

Please leave any donations to fill the eggs in the church office by Thursday, April 1st in Karen's mailbox or the CE 2nd floor office area. All candy must be in wrapped packages. Thank you for all of your donations.

Gospel of John DVD And Music CD

If you are interested in borrowing either of these items please speak to Karen.

This is a perfect time of year to spend time watch this moving DVD or listen to the wonderful soundtrack on CD.

CANDLE SALE

The St. James Youth Group will be having a candle sale from March 28 thru April 11. There will be assorted scents to choose from and are available in 7 oz. and 10 oz. jars. Cost is \$10.00 for 7 oz and \$14.00 for 10 oz. The deadline to turn in order forms will be April 11th. You may drop the orders off in the church office. The delivery day will be Sunday May 2nd. They make great Mother's Day gifts. The Youth will receive ½ of the total sales that will go towards the Youth Group Fund. Please call Patty Jensen at 649-6171 if you have questions.

Board of Christian Education Staff Reviews

The Board of CE is currently in the process of conducting its yearly reviews of CE Staff. This involves speaking to current CE Staff and finding out how their experience has been during this year. If you would like a CE Board Member to contact you regarding teaching opportunities in the fall or the summer, helping with the pageant or any other CE sponsored events or activities please call Karen and she will be glad to have someone from the board contact you or you may speak directly with Karen.

Youth Board Meeting

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 27th at 6:15 p.m. in the Resource Room. Please call the church office, 649-6171, if you cannot attend the meeting.

IT'S RUMAGE SALE TIME LET THE SPRING CLEANING BEGIN!

Mark the dates on your calendar and let the cleaning begin! Sign up sheets will be posted on the bulletin board.

We will be accepting GENTLY USEABLE items beginning Monday April 12. A designated area in the Assembly Hall for your treasures will be marked.

If you need assistance to bring things into the church we will try and arrange a pickup.

There will be sign up sheets for **kitchen** and **floor** work as well as **people to bake** for the bake sale that will be ongoing during the rummage sale.

We are looking for people with trucks and vans to help with the removal of leftover items as well as volunteers with the cleaning of the assembly hall. Let's make this year go as smoothly as last year. Remember, many hands make light work!

Here are the dates to remember:

Monday April 12th date to begin bringing in items.

Thursday April 15th 9:30 a.m.

– ??:Set up and pricing

Friday April 16th 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. PREVIEW NIGHT, \$1 DONATION

Saturday April 17th 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 pm. Bag sale begins at 1:30 pm.

Sunday April 18th AFTER CHURCH, bag sale, and clean up. \$2.00 a bag, meaning only items that FIT into a bag. Everything else will be half price.

Friday and Saturday there will be roast beef sandwiches, baked goods and beverages for sale.

Please call Patty Jensen at the church office, 649-6171, if you have questions.

Happy Cleaning!

Christian Education Staff Appreciation Luncheon

On Sunday, May 2nd we will be honoring our Christian Ed teaching staff, assistants and, substitutes along with anyone who is involved with the Christian Education Program. Everyone is welcome to attend this special occasion. There will be a special musical program providing us with entertainment as part of this special event which honors all of our Christian Education volunteers. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and space to indicate what you would like to contribute. Traditionally the Board of Christian Ed brings salads and the Church Council provides desserts.

If you are interested in helping honor those involved in our Christian Ed program please check the "would like to help" column on the sign-up sheet. We can always use a hand setting-up, cleaning-up, putting the food out or making coffee, drinks or rolling meat for platters. It's a nice way to get involved and thank the people who have volunteered their time and talent to nurture our children and help to guide them on their lifelong Christian journey.

Youth Service

The Youth service has been changed to Saturday, April 24th at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 25th at 10 a.m. The Youth have chosen "Changes & Choices" as their theme. The Sunday morning church school class time is being spent preparing for the service so we are encouraging the youth to attend class as often as they can. Rehearsal for the Youth Service will be on Saturday, April 24th; check the bulletin for

the time and details.

Lasertron

We will be leaving St. James at 3:15 p.m., arriving for 4:30 p.m. reservations on Saturday, April 17th. We will return to St. James at approximately 6:30 p.m. This event is being sponsored by the Middle and Senior High Youth Group and includes the St. James Church Family and friends. The cost is \$10 for St. James youth to attend and \$20 per person for friends and adults which includes laser tag, beverage, pizza and game tokens. Anyone who would like to attend please sign up on youth bulletin board and have your money in to Karen Reinagel by 5 p.m. on April 11th. This is on a first come, first serve basis. Any Middle or Sr. High Youth that helps with the Rummage Sale on Friday, Saturday or Sunday will receive \$10 off the cost of attending Lasertron (that means you could go for FREE). The way it works is you pay and we reimburse you if you work on the rummage sale.

Annual Church Picnic Sunday, June 13th

This year our service will begin at 11 a.m. with our picnic and games to follow. Come join the fun and festivities as we celebrate and praise GOD! We hope you will mark the date on your calendars and look for information in next months Connector or the bulletin.

Dimes for Dunkirk

The youth are collecting change to donate to Dunkirk. Please be on the look out for a jug to place your donations in

ST. JAMES PERMANENT YOUTH PERMISSION FORM

Each Middle and Sr. High Youth is being asked to have a signed permanent permission form on file with the CE Department in order to attend events. This is to save the parents the chore of signing countless permission forms and to save the CE Department from the countless forms that are handed out and collected. The forms can be obtained from the CE office or the Youth Bulletin Board. Both sides of the form need to be filled out, signed by the parent/s or guardian and returned to the CE Department. The form is for local activities which the youth attend. There will still be additional forms when we attend something like WAY Events, the New York State Youth Event, Regional or National events. If you have any questions please feel free to speak to Karen or Donna. The form is also required to be filled out by friends that attend activities with our youth group so be sure to remind your youth to have their friends fill one out if they plan on attending events with us. The forms are good for one year and then they will be reviewed to see how this is working out and if it works well we will just update them for any new information each year. It is also better for the environment since we will be using less paper

Youth Fund Raisers

The paper box is open for paper and the clothing shed can be filled. Our youth cash in bottles and cans. Please remember them when you have something you don't need any more or want to discard.

The Auxiliary of the Dunkirk Conference Center, Inc.

Don't forget Jen Reinagel is available to collect dues for the Auxiliary. Dues are \$2.00 per individual or \$5.00 per family. You can make checks payable to "The Dunkirk Auxiliary". This is an annual membership drive. The membership includes receiving the Newsletter. The Center has many uses besides the many camps. Our church picnic is held at the Center for instance.. We can have a wonderful time, rain or shine. If we have to, we move indoors to a warm heated building that still allows us to celebrate in picnic style. St. James also sponsors a cabin at Dunkirk, which is maintained by members of our congregation. Funds to make repairs and updates come from our annual rummage sale.

Wednesday Family Night April 7th, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Please consider joining us for pizza, salad, dessert, beverages and fellowship.. It's a chance to visit with other parents while your children attend choir, or just a chance to get out of the house and let the pizzeria do the cooking. Please remember to sign-up on the bulletin board so we have an idea how much pizza to order. If you have any questions, please speak to Karen Reinagel.

CIA

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped CIA raise over \$17,000 to send to Haiti. We couldn't have done it without you!! Our team is in Haiti helping now and will be happy to talk to us about it when they return.

DISASTER CONFERENCE

The New York Conference Disaster Response Team is organizing a one-day training experience for representatives from local churches on Saturday, April 17th beginning at 9 a.m. here at St. James.

Information in the program will include the cycles of a disaster and resources available when a disaster occurs. We will also discuss how families and churches can be prepared for a disaster.

We hope to have one or two representatives from each church in our Western Association. Please bring a sandwich to add to the platter of sandwiches. Other lunch items will be provided.

Please see Charlotte Cialone if you would like to be a part of this conference.

Benefit for Sue Wiltberger

The youth will sponsor a Pancake Breakfast with all the trimmings and Basket Auction in order to raise funds to help defray the cost of a Service Dog for Sue. Sue suffers from seizures caused by injuries suffered in a car accident when she was 9 years old. As a result of the brain damage Sue began having seizures at the age of 12. With remarkable will and spirit she has been able to live independently and even contributes her time as a volunteer at HEART, St. James, and a local baseball league for handicapped folks. The dog would be invaluable in preventing further injury to Sue as it would be able to alert her as much as 60 minutes before the onset of a seizure. The date for the breakfast was not set before the Connector went to print so be on the look out for the date in the weekly bulletin.

Summer Childcare And Church School

I am looking for help for our Childcare/Enrichment Time for the summer months. There are a variety of ways to help:

- help is need to oversee the sign-up sheet;
- remind people of the date they are volunteering,
- people to keep a watch on the Childcare Room;
- we need people to donate snacks; and
- people willing to help serve a mini version of coffee hour after worship.

Please consider helping out with our Childcare during the summer months. It is a nice way to let a mom or dad spend a well deserved hour in peace and prayerful reflection.

Children up to age 4 are in childcare until the rest of the children join them in the lounge for Enrichment Time following the children's sermon. If you are interested in helping or would like more information please speak to Karen Reinagel.

NYS Youth Event Report

Donna & Bill Schumacher with a group of 5 youth from St. James attended this year's event in Painted Post, New York. The theme was "Connect The Dots", and rumor has it that a great time was had by all. St. James is blessed to have a couple as dedicated as Bill and Donna to volunteer to drive, be responsible for and spend a whole weekend with the youth that are interested in attending special events like this. I should also mention that the kids in our group are pretty special too!

MID ATLANTIC REGIONAL YOUTH EVENT (MARYE)

The MARYE is being held at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA on July 21st - 25th. "Take the Journey...Follow the Holy Brick Road" - One of the best youth events you have EVER attended is coming your way THIS SUMMER! Our journeys of life can take us all over the map, but there is one very EXCELLENT way to follow - the way of the Holy Brick Road! This youth event will take you on a journey of faith and celebration, and by the strength of the Holy Spirit, you will be able to follow the Holy Brick Road and discover a whole lot about God, yourself, our world, and much more!

There will be great youth-led worship, music, speakers, many workshops (Moments of the Road), great friendships, and oh, so much more.

Registration information can be found on the Youth Bulletin Board, outside the CE office or by talking to Donna or Karen. You can also check on line at the RYE website www.marye-ucc.org.

Come with us! Take the journey...Follow the Holy Brick Road! All forms will be processed and mailed through St. James. They need to be turned in to Karen so she can get them to MARYE. The cost to attend this event is \$100.00 per youth to attend plus any additional spending money they bring. If you are registering after the February deadline the cost is \$125.00 (from March 1 - May 30th) and \$150.00 after June 1, but before July 1st. Please speak to Karen to make sure of availability