

CONCORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2832 Conway Wallrose Road
Baden, PA 15005
www.concordchurch.org
724.869.9135

CONCORD GRAPEVINE

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

July/August 2011

As the busy days of our lives rush by, every so often, we get an urge to break from our routine and do something kind for someone. The urge may be to hug a friend, or give a word of encouragement to a co-worker. It may be to smile at a sad looking stranger, complement your spouse, say "I love you" to a family member, pray for someone having a rough time, or make a donation of time or money to a needy individual. I like to think these urges to do random acts of kindness are nothing less than God whispering into our hearts. How many times have you ignored God's gentle whisper? When we put aside ideas of going out of our way to make someone else happy, we rob ourselves and others of the blessing.

In a previous church I served we used to host a dinner each month for the community. It was very well attended and drew in people from the area who weren't affiliated with our church. One evening after one of these community dinners, I was standing at the door, thanking people for coming. A woman I did not recognize smiled at me as she walked by on her way out the door but said nothing. A few seconds later, she came back and wanted to speak to me. She told me about a time she was in the hospital and I came into her room to visit her roommate who was a member of my church. She said I offered to pray for her as well, and it meant so much to her. She never forgot the kindness. Had I ignored my urge to pray for her, a stranger, when I was already there to pray for a parishioner, she would have missed the blessing of having someone care enough to pray for her. And if this woman hadn't followed her urge to come back and speak to me, I would have missed the blessing of knowing I was used by God to help in the healing process of another.

How many blessings are you missing out on by not following an urge to do something selfless and kind for someone else?

God sends us opportunities to minister to others all the time and we walk away from it. What a waste. What a missed opportunity. Stepping out of our comfort zone is always a tough thing to do. We need to be constantly reminding ourselves that God is strong when we are weak. The less pleasant the task, the less capable you feel, the more you are allowing God to take charge of the situation. I am often amazed at how a small step in the right direction serves to open the floodgates of God's power that just carries me along for the ride – it's awesome!

Do you remember the story of Moses in Exodus, chapters three and four? Moses tries to tell God he's the wrong guy for the job God wants done. God pushes the excuses aside and tells Moses, *"Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."* (Exodus 4:11) So Moses goes to Pharaoh and does some pretty amazing things, only it's not him doing them but God who does the miracles through him.

Often we are just like Moses; we have every excuse in the book to avoid doing what God asks us to do. What we need to realize beyond a shadow of a doubt is that God would not have us fail. He has so much He wants to do in and through you. He wants to use you as a blessing to others and the amazing thing is He's going to make sure you get a blessing in return for being obedient to His leading.

Look for opportunities to show kindness. Jesus said, *"For I hungered, and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me"* (Matthew 25:35-36). The blessings will astound you!

In Christ's love,
Rev. Jean Smith



P · A · R · I · S · H NEWS

MESSAGE FROM REV. JEAN SMITH

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Church in Mission

*Thanks to VBS Volunteers
Sewing Group – Wednesdays
Ladle – 8.29*

The Church in Prayer

*Prayer Chain
Prayer Schedule
Prayer List*

Church Life

*Interim Process Update
Christian Ed. Committee – 7.11
Ladies Aid Summer meetings*

People

*Thank you's
July/August Birthdays/Anniversaries
Worship Volunteers*

July/August Calendars

THE CHURCH IN MISSION



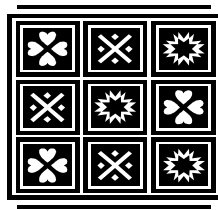
**VBS
WAS
A
GREAT
SUCCESS!**

Many thanks to the following volunteers:

Chele DiCioccio
Linda Martin
Patti Panek
Greta Penn
Mike Penn
Cathy Riddle
Nellie Schweikert
Gavin Smith
Rev. Jean Smith
Trevor Smith
Lenore Tonti
Melissa Woten

And a special thanks to Betty Kmiecik for coordinating our efforts as we assisted Rehoboth Lutheran Church this year.

Next year it will be back at Concord!



The sewing group would like to thank Terri Smokovich for delivering 70 blankets to Children's Hospital in June.

The total number of blankets that we have made and given away to various organizations is 2441.

We are still collecting pillowcases to send to our troops. To date, we have sent 588.

We meet **every Wednesday afternoon** from 12:30 to 2:30.

Thanks to all for your support.



We will be serving at The Ladle **on Monday, August 29th**. Brownies are needed for dessert. Please sign up if you are able to serve or provide desserts. Thank you!

Prayer List

The people listed below are those with various ongoing needs for whom we are praying on a regular basis, including each week during worship. If you would like to include someone's name on this list, **please provide the pertinent information to Rhoda Grossman.**



THE CHURCH IN PRAYER

Prayer Chain

Alice/Jim Ward 724.266.6776 ↓
Pat Guthrie 724.869.2705 ↓
Robin/Dan Hall 724.869.0801 ↓
Bea Roby 724.869.9577 ↓
Eleanor Eisenbrown 724.774.1568 ↓
Shelda/Chuck Rudich 724.266.5403 ↓
Marie/Bob Dewar 724.869.5278 <i>(leave message on Church machine)</i> 724.869.9135

The Prayer Chain consists of those who are available for special prayer in time of emergency need. If there is a special need which needs immediate prayer, please call anyone on the prayer chain to activate the chain.

DAVE AMES – (member of Concord)
Heart-related issues

TYLER BAKER – (George/Cindy Hartsell's 10 year-old grandson) Admitted to Children's Hospital receiving antibiotics

ANN BUFALINI – (Cindy Hartsell's friend)
Battling lupus and cancer

KATHY CONTENTA – (Evelyn Warren's niece)
Suffers from MS and needs carpal tunnel surgery

DEBBIE CROSBY – (Kathy Jones' sister)
Needs heart transplant

MARIE DEWAR – (member of Concord)
Job concerns

KEITH DURHAM – (Joe DiCioccio's friend)
Battling Hodgkin's Lymphoma

DORIS EASTERDAY - (member of Concord)

JUNE FILLINGER – (Karen Wylie's friend)
Underwent recent surgery

ELIZABETH FRANK – (Andy Schweikert's grandmother)

DALE GASS – (Greta Penn's father)

EARL GREENWALD (member of Concord)
Recovering from knee replacement surgery

JOYCE GRIFFIN – (Jim/Karen Wylie's daughter)
Recovering from open heart surgery

LINDA GROSSMAN – (Rhoda Grossman's sister)
Prayers for success in looking for employment.

ROBIN HALL – (member of Concord)
Recovering at home from recent foot surgery and doing well

Monthly Prayer Schedule



Session continues to urge you to join us in prayer on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. If you feel out of your comfort zone by praying aloud, you are still welcome to join us and pray in silence. Take a half hour out of your busy life for Christ...isn't your eternal life worth it?

This list needs to be kept up-to-date, so if you have put someone's name on this list and it becomes no longer necessary for them to remain on the list, please notify Rhoda directly.

CINDY HARTSELL – (member of Concord)

MIKE/LISA HATHAWAY – (members of Concord)

JUDY HAWK – (member of Concord)
Recovering from auto accident/surgery

REBEKAH HILTH – (Karen Wylie’s friend)
18 year-old with ovarian cancer

REV. KATHERINE HORSTMAN –
Undergoing chemotherapy for ovarian cancer

MARIE JONES – (member of Concord)

PAUL JONES – (member of Concord)

RALPH JONES – (Janet Gilson’s father)

BETTY KARDASZ – (Virginia Kardasz’s mother-in-law) Health problems

DAVID KASSELL FAMILY – (John Kassel’s brother)
Upon his recent death

KENNEDY FAMILY – (Gilson family friends)

NATHAN DANIEL KUSTRA – (grandson of Fred Simonds’ friend) Born with spinal bifida

AGNESS LAUDENSLAGER – (John Laudenslager’s mother) Fell and broke hip

JIM LAUGHNER – (member of Concord) Tests

CINDY LAVERY – (friend of Betty/Chris Kmiecik)
Undergoing chemotherapy for brain cancer and still has 5 more months of treatment remaining.

JOYCE LINT – (Shelda Rudich’s mother)
Battling pneumonia and leg pain associated from a stroke

HUXLEY LIPSCOMB – (member of Concord)

JESSICA MARCHIONDA - (Linda Martin’s daughter)
Battling cancer

DEBBIE MCGILL – (member of Concord)
Diagnosed with Parkinson’s

NANCI MCHALE – (friend of Concord)
Numerous health problems

TODD NEELY – (member of Concord)
Serving in the Marines

JEANINE OWENS – (Dave Jones co-worker’s wife)

FLOYD OSBORNE – (Rhoda Grossman’s girl friend’s father) Re-occurring cancer in spine

KAROL PONEVAC - (Pearl Dunlap’s friend)
Suffered a stroke

GLORIA PRIESTLEY – (member of Concord)

LINDA PROFOZICH – (Greta/Mike Penn’s close friend) Recovering from breast cancer surgery along with potential thyroid problems.

ISAIAH RUDICH – (Spring/Eric Rudich’s son)
Suffering from pneumonia

SARAH RUDICH – (Daughter of Chuck/Shelda Rudich) Spiritual well-being and Hannah’s health

AMY SCHNEIDER – (Dick Schneider’s daughter)
Battling MS and depression

JAYNE SCHNEIDER – (member of Concord)
Recovering from back surgery

JOHN/ANNE SHUBAK – (members of Concord)

CAROL SIMONDS - (member of Concord)
Health concerns

TIARA ANN - Battling cancer

CINDY WILLIS – (Karen Wylie’s friend)
Underwent recent breast cancer surgery

SHELLE WINTERHALTER – (Chele DiCioccio’s friend) Undetermined health issues

CHURCH LIFE

Interim Process Update



At the May 16th meeting the Session voted to renew Rev. Jean Smith's contract as Interim Pastor of Concord Presbyterian Church. She will serve July 11, 2011 through July 10, 2012 or until we have completed the pastoral search process.

The Nominating Committee of Concord is in the process of forming a slate of candidates to be presented to the congregation for election to the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). As soon as they have completed their work, a

Congregational Meeting will be called for the purpose of electing a PNC that will begin the work of putting together a Church Information Form (CIF). That form must go before the Committee on Ministry (COM) of Beaver- Butler Presbytery for approval before it can be posted at the Presbyterian Church USA search center. Once this is accomplished, the PNC will be able to begin receiving Personal Information Forms (PIF's) from interested pastors. Please hold this entire process in you daily prayers.

Ladies Night Out

The July Ladies Aid meeting will be held **Monday, July 11th at 6:30 p.m.** Sarah and Shelda Rudich will be co-hostesses for the evening. Please bring a small gift item or two for Bingo. All ladies are cordially invited to join us.

Our August meeting is the annual picnic at Evelyn Warren's home **on Sunday, August 14th starting at 5:30 p.m.** Each guest, please bring a covered dish or dessert to share.

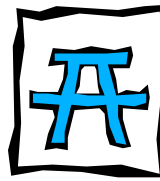
Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee plans to meet on **Monday, July 11th at 7:30 p.m.** to evaluate the planning for the remainder of Summer Sunday School and to start planning for the fall classes.

Anyone in the congregation interested in helping with Christian Education is encouraged to attend the meeting.



Annual Church Picnic



The Annual Church Picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, August 21st at 1:00 p.m.** at the Economy Borough Picnic Pavilion (behind the Borough Maintenance

Garage).

Bring your favorite casserole, dessert, or side dish to share, and your own table service. Fried Chicken, Corn on the Cob, Ham BBQ's, Hot Dogs, and Beverages will be provided.

There will be no Coffee Fellowship or Sunday School on this date. Mark your calendar and come out for an afternoon of great fun, fellowship and food. This event is sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee.

If you would like to help with the event, please contact Fred Simonds or Cathy Riddle or Dick Schneider.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Thanks to all the folks who contributed to make the Music Appreciation Service and Luncheon a success. Special thanks goes out to Michelle Jones for coordinating the menu and preparing the food and decorations and to Fred Simonds and company for designing and developing the certificates.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU

TO ALL!

Dear Congregation -

My sincere thanks to everyone involved in coordinating the Music Appreciation Sunday on June 19th!

I'm so blessed to be a part of the choral ministry at Concord.

The gift certificates were very much appreciated!

Merna Poninsky

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

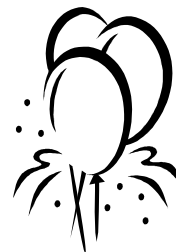


JULY

- 1 Joe DiCioccio
- 1 Steve Tonti
- 3 Emily Shubak
- 4 America
- 7 Arlene Mawhinney
- 8 Helen Ciani
- 9 Melissa Davison
- 10 Tim Collins
- 10 Bob Gilson
- 11 Warrena Merryman
- 12 Sara Hershberger
- 13 Flynn Erdlen
- 14 Bill Himes
- 16 David Thompson
- 17 Huxley Lipscomb
- 20 Joshua Jones
- 20 Valerie Mawhinney
- 23 Kylee Stillwagon
- 25 Doris Easterday
- 27 Greg Jones
- 29 Kathy Jones

AUGUST

- 1 Olivia Shubak
- 4 Rhoda Grossman
- 5 Harold Sloppy
- 7 Donna Marski
- 7 Rachael McHenry
- 9 Tracy Staving
- 11 Linda Martin
- 11 Chuck Rudich, Sr.
- 12 Dean Chalupiak
- 12 Mark Riddle
- 12 Anne Shubak
- 12 Cassidy Wain
- 14 Jean Smith
- 16 Erin Blank
- 20 Andy Schweikert
- 21 Warren Guthrie
- 23 Heather Cress
- 24 Bob Sobonya
- 26 Rosemary Sloppy
- 27 Logan Farine
- 27 Peter McHenry
- 30 Merna Poninsky
- 31 Danny Deane
- 31 Elizabeth Dewar



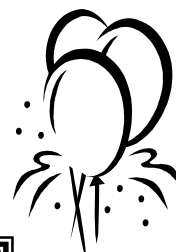
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

JULY

- 3 Eleanor/Earl Schriver
- 10 Stacey/Jerry Chalupiak
- 10 Teri/George Smokovich
- 16 Joan/Bob Sobonya
- 22 Linda/Dave Ames

AUGUST

- 14 Jayne/Dick Schneider
- 15 Patti/Tom Panek
- 16 John Detz/Linda Martin
- 19 Nellie/Andy Schweikert
- 23 Sue/Glen Stillwagon
- 25 Jean/Paul Smith



**W O R S H I P
V O L U N T E E R S**

JULY

AUGUST

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

3 - Riddle
10 - Smokovich
17 - Tonti
24 - Hall
31 - Blank

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

7 - Ward
14 - Erdlen
21 - Riddle
28 - Rudich

LITURGISTS

3 - Fred Simonds
10 - Rhoda Grossman
17 - Bob Dewar
24 - Dan Hall
31 - Fred Simonds

LITURGISTS

7 - Jayne Schneider
14 - Marie Dewar
21 - Rhoda Grossman
28 - Bob Dewar

GREETERS

3 - TBA
10 - TBA
17 - TBA
24 - TBA
31 - TBA

GREETERS

7 - TBA
14 - TBA
21 - TBA
28 - TBA

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

3 - Helen Ciani
10 - Linda Martin
17 - Ed/Diane Eisenbrown
24 - Bob/Marie Dewar
31 - Todd/Deena McHenry


NURSERY ATTENDANTS

7 - Linda Martin
14 - Dave/Michelle Jones
21 - George/Terri Smokovich
28 - Dave/Melissa Woten



JULY 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:30 Praise Team FISH CUPBOARD SUNDAY NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:30 Mission/Outreach	4 	5	6 7:00 Prayer	7	8	9
10 8:30 Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	11 6:30 Ladies Aid 7:30 Christian Ed.	12	13 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	14	15	16
17 8:30 Praise Team 9:00 Worship/ Guest Preacher 10:30 Sunday School	18 7:00 Session	19	20 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	21	22	23
24 8:30 Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Congregational Care	25	26 6:00 Presbytery at Harmony UM	27 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	28	29	30
31 8:30 Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	PASTOR JEAN ON VACATION 7.11—7.17					



AUGUST 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	4	5	6
7 8:30 Praise Team FISH CUPBOARD SUNDAY 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	8	9	10 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	11	12	13 10:00 Denny/Kassell Wedding
14 8:30 Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 5:30 Ladies Aid Picnic	15	16	17 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	18	19	20
21 8:30 Praise Team 9:00 Worship NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 1:00 Church Picnic	22	23 SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	24 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	25	26	27
28 8:30 Praise Team 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	29	30	31 12:30 Sewing Group 7:00 Prayer	PASTOR JEAN ON STUDY LEAVE 8.22—8.28		REV. 6.30.11