

*Thank you for stepping up
in your faithfulness!*

Estimate of Giving Report—as of June 28, 2009

The focus during the time leading up to Consecration Sunday has been about faithfulness — God’s faithfulness to us and our faithfulness to God.

Total number of cards received	Total “Estimated Giving”
April 2008: 42 cards	\$51,787.00
April 2009: 46 cards	\$58,957.00

Well done, my good and faithful servant!
Matthew 6: 19—21

Communications Team!

A communications team is being assembled to assist the pastor, church office staff, and committees as they share with the congregation and our surrounding community about opportunities for involvement. The team will consist of 4 -6 members - including the pastor and church secretary.

You can help! What would you like the people in our community to know about our church - the church history, current programs, programs being planned?

We are looking for people to help write articles, do research, and contact area newspapers. Watch for more information in the August Newsletter. If you have ideas or suggestions contact Louella Hext, (570) 827-7907, Email: lghext@yahoo.com.

Change!

Change is on our horizon as we welcome our new pastor, Rev. Joy Hulslander. However, we — the congregation — will experience more “sameness” than change.

We will be worshipping with our family and friends in the same sanctuary and singing from the same hymnal, holding dinners and coffee hours in the same dining room and probably with the same people in charge of refreshments.

Committees will meet in the same building with the same committee members. We will be operating with the same budget and the same mission statement. We will have the same church secretary preparing our bulletins, newsletters and doing our secretarial work.

We will experience some changes, but Pastor Joy, will experience the majority of change. Just about everything will be new and different for her - the sanctuary, the congregation, her office, her home, etc.

We will have to remember only one name while she will have many, many names and faces to remember.

We will be learning about the personality and work methods and preferences of only one person while she will be getting acquainted with many people, learning about their personalities, discovering their skills and their areas of ministry.

This is not a time to be anxious - but a time to be hopeful and helpful as we (this congregation and our new pastor) get to know each other.

This is a time to have faith and be faithful -- to our church and to the mission of our church.

And — during this time of change we will have continuity -- provided by our church leaders, our committee members, and our church secretary.

**As we journey together during this time of change, remember...
This is God's church, under the care and guidance of the Holy Spirit.
We can expect great things from our gracious God!**

Profile of Dolores and Richard Jackson

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Dolores Ann was born and grew up in Wyalusing, Pa. She laughingly says that she was a "city girl" growing up in Wyalusing, then a thriving town with a population of about 300. More about the "city girl" tag later.

Dolores has an extensive background in music, having studied music at Ithaca College and Mansfield University. She became the choir director and organist at her church at the amazing age of 12. The organ in use at the time was a pump organ, which is considerably more difficult to play than a more modern instrument. Your feet have to continually pump while you play in order to have sound-- now that requires great coordination. After moving to Mansfield she played the organ at the Baptist Church for several years and substituted at other churches.

She plays the piano at home today for enjoyment, to which Dick adds that he greatly enjoys her music and will often stop what he is working on in his basement shop just to listen to her play.

Her hobbies today are music, cross-stitching and gardening. All of her children and grandchildren received a special cross-stitch creation as a wedding gift. Dolores and Dick have two sons and a daughter, ten grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Richard Wardell, got his middle name after his father, and is better known to his friends as Dick. He grew up on a farm near Wyalusing and worked on the family farm for 16 years. Dick says that one bit of strong advice his Dad gave him was "watch out for those city girls" and 57 years - going on 58 years of being married to a "city girl", he is really glad that he did not follow that advice. When he and Dolores met he was the maintenance man/ custodian at the Methodist church and she the organist.

Dick graduated from Mansfield University and taught mathematics in the Mansfield Junior High for 33 years. He coached basketball for 31 years, 16 years for the girl's team and 15 for the boy's team.

Dick's hobby is fishing and woodworking and the many repairs and improvements he has made at our church reflect his skills. Over the years he has constructed 4 houses, 2 as their homes.

Dolores and Dick have been members at this church since 1960, and during those years have had a wide range of responsibilities. They both say that the Good Lord has been so good to them and so have all of their friends in their church.

Two things you should ask them about are **their first date**, and **the poem** that their grandchildren wrote for their 50th anniversary.



Welcome Pastor Joy Hulslander

We welcome Pastor Joy Hulslander as our new pastor and spiritual leader at Mansfield 1st United Methodist Church! She will begin as our pastor on July 1, and will be in the office on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Her first official day of leading Sunday worship services will be July 5th. Be sure to attend as this will be the first opportunity for many to meet Pastor Joy.

Pastor Joy comes to us with a Masters of Divinity degree from Colgate-Rochester School of Divinity. Joy started her career in 1995 as the pastor of the Liberty Charge, Liberty, PA. After serving 8 years at Liberty Charge, she was appointed to the PineGrove/McAllisterville charge in 2003 and served there for 6 years. Joy received her B.S. degree at Mansfield University.

Joy's husband, pastor Allen Hulslander, has been appointed to the Calvary UMC, Lawrenceville, PA. Their family cat is called "Grace".

Some highlights of Pastor Joy's ministry:

- * Helped develop a group called "Alone Together". The group is for widows and women who are not married. It began with 5 women from the church and currently 41 women are involved - including many women from the community.
- * McKids Club - a community based program for children.
- * Helped develop a Hospice Day Camp for children in the Wellsboro area while serving at the Liberty Charge. The program is a North Penn Hospice Program.

Some things to know about Pastor Joy:

She has an affinity for people with special needs and has a special needs granddaughter.
Enjoys crafts, cross stitch, and crocheting -- and wants to learn how to quilt and knit.
Likes to be involved with potluck and community dinners - enjoys working along side others.
Favorite desert is coconut cream pie.
Likes to laugh, enjoys most board games and good movies - especially about kids.
Family vacations are usually anyplace that has water -- ocean, lakes, etc.
Enjoys gardening - loves flowers.
Favorite scripture - Psalm 139.

A welcome reception is being planned for pastor Joy and will be announced at a later date.



Choir Update

Welcome Linda Kichline! Linda is from Wellsboro and will be one of the piano players during our worship services - beginning in July. Linda is also the pianist/organist for the Holy Child Catholic Church in Mansfield and previously was the pianist and choir director for the Blossburg United Methodist Church for 6 years. Linda will play two Sunday each month and Louella Hext will play the other two Sundays.

Choir schedule: The choir will not be singing during the months of July and August but will start singing again in September. We always welcome more singers! If you enjoy singing and want to be part of this group please contact any of the choir members. Next rehearsal will be announced later.

Report on Annual Conference - Messiah College, PA

Thank you for inviting me to be your representative at the annual conference this year. Our church, Mansfield umc, is part of the Central Pennsylvania Conference - which currently represents about 1/3 of the geographical area of Pennsylvania. The meeting is held at the Messiah College - just south of Harrisburg. Messiah is a Christian college.

The purpose of this annual gathering of about 700 pastors and 700 laity (church members) - is to do the business of the Church. It's important to know that our denomination is very intentional in making sure that the laity has equal voice in the discussions and decision making process.

One important decision that we (the laity and pastors) voted on was the name of this conference. It is currently called the Central Pennsylvania conference. In June 2010 two more districts will be added to this conference - they are located east of here in the northern part of Pennsylvania.

After some discussion, the vote was taken and the new, name which takes effect in June 2010, will be the **Susquehanna Conference**. I voted against the name change -- but I was outnumbered. The leaders expressed that it would be a welcoming gesture and would assist with the assimilation of the two new districts into our conference.

The following is an item that was voted on and passed unanimously at the annual conference. (Excerpt from the Central Pennsylvania Conference website. (www.cpcumc.com).

The Central Pennsylvania Conference unanimously condemned a proposal to allow video poker in Pennsylvania restaurants and taverns by supporting a resolution that "in the strongest language possible, condemns this ill-advised proposal. The creation of these mini-casinos could negatively change the nature of neighborhoods throughout Pennsylvania. Video poker and similar devices are specifically designed to lure bettors into wagering more money more quickly... [while] numerous scientific studies show video poker to be a potent harbinger of gambling addiction."

The conference holds special services each evening. Some are to honor retiring pastors or pastors who have passed away. Other services are for licensing and ordaining people to go into the ministry in the United Methodist denomination. These are all very meaningful services.

The annual conference also includes times of worship and singing. It's a time of meeting other Methodists and learning some of the interesting things they are doing in their churches. During one of the sessions when we gathered in groups of 8—10 we were encouraged to discuss what our churches were doing to reach out to the community.

One lady in our group shared that her church is growing. Everyone in the group wanted to know what her church was doing to make that happen. The following are some things she shared:

- Make the monthly church newsletter available to every family in the community.
- "Light up the night" on Halloween night — they provided activities for the kids in the community.
- "Fellowship of Christian Athletes—for school age children.
- Special needs—kids and adults, provide activities for them.

Do any of the above activities inspire some of you creative thinkers about ways we can provide activities to interact with the people in Mansfield community? Ways that we can invite people into our buildings and get acquainted with our congregation?

The lady who shared the above items was Lorene Guillaume—Rev. Jason Guillaume's mother. Jason was the pastor at Blossburg until last week. Jason has been appointed to a church in central Pennsylvania. Lorene lives in Trout Run.

There were 5 people from our church that attended the conference this year. Pastor Rich and myself. My husband Deward, and Barbara Bell attended as representatives "at-large" from the Wellsboro District. And Rosalie Connelly attended the conference as part of the United Methodist Women. Your church was well represented.

Thank you again for inviting me to represent you.
Louella Hext