

# The Messenger

May 2009

Richard L. Berg, Pastor

Mansfield First United Methodist Church

67 E. Wellsboro St., Mansfield, PA.

## *From the Pastor...*

Dear Members and Friends of the First United Methodist Church:

I find myself longing. Do you find yourself doing the same thing? When I am in Winter, I long for Spring. When I am at home, I long for the sunny beaches of a paradise island. When I am on vacation, I long for my own bed. When it is cloudy, I long to see the sun. When I am away, I long for home; and when I am home, I long to be away. I long for Chicago pizza...a good hot dog ... a great doughnut ... a true friend. I am always longing...looking around the corner of life and I find myself longing for something different or in another area. Do you find yourself doing the same?

The Bible tells us that the Israelites were longing to be in their homeland when they were taken away. The Bible also tells us that this earthly existence is not our home. In a sense, we have been carried away and are living in a strange and difficult world. For you see, we have been created to have a true fellowship with God. This land is not ours nor is it our final destiny. Our rightful place is to be with our Lord and Savior. Our longing is to be with God in the place that He has created for us.

I have to remind myself of this fact many times. I get caught up in looking around me and thinking that this is it; this place is my final land, my final resting place. This world is where I am placed and am thankful. Well, as much as it is my place and that I should be thankful, it is not my final resting place. I am just passing through to something that is more eternal and much more beautiful than I could imagine. It is a place for which I should be longing. It is a place in which I am with my Lord and Savior.

Heaven is that place. I am to be longing for heaven. I am to be longing to be with my Lord. I am to be longing for the presence of my God. Heaven should be the focal point of my true longing. In the mean time, as I abide my time here, my heart still longs. So, while I am still here, I long for summer breezes. I long for desert sands. I long for warmer weather. I long for sunny days. I long for Chicago pizza and I long for great doughnuts. I long; I long; I long.

As you and I long for different things...let us keep our hearts longing for our eternal homeland...heaven. And as we keep the right perspective, it might be all right to long for a great doughnut ... just every now and then.

May your heart be longing for Him.....

From one who "longs" too much.....

Pastor Rich

### **UMW News**

Thanks to everyone who donated items for the Rummage sale. It went very well thanks to your help and the work of many members of UMW.

The next UMW meeting is Monday, May 18.  
Come join us.

### **STEWARDSHIP**

"Thank the Lord that you can give instead of depending on others to give to you"                      Anonymous

Submitted by Joyce Taylor



## MAY

- 1 Seve Piquero  
Keith & Sylvia Graver (A) 1971
- 2 Sharon Smith  
Colleen Dempsey
- 3 Jeff Giarth
- 5 Jonathan Fuller  
Jena Loomis  
Alice & Gene Abrams (A) 1951  
Ed & Sandy Brion (A) 1979
- 7 Tim Dempsey
- 8 Ronald G. Day
- 9 Russell Welch
- 11 Heather Dempsey  
Colleen Meringer
- 12 Paul Bailey  
Sarah Reed
- 13 Jane McGee
- 16 Anne Heinrich
- 19 Ralph Goff
- 21 Todd Rumsey
- 22 Jerry & Deanna Rumsey (A) 1956
- 23 Linda Lawton  
Lexis Orchowski  
Paul Shaw  
Christopher & Jennifer DeVore (A) 2003
- 24 Emma Berge
- 25 Brad & Sheila Orchowski (A)  
Terry Schanbacher
- 27 Karyl Otruba  
Jordan Spohn
- 29 Ruth Maneval  
Shawn Forrest
- 30 Teddy Martin

### BAKERS NEEDED!

Twelve dozen cookies are needed for the Baccalaureate service for the graduating seniors at the Junior/Senior High School of Mansfield.

The service is on Sunday, May 31st at 2:30 PM at the High School

If you can help, please have your cookies to the High School by 1 PM.

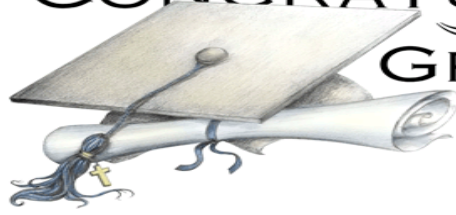
### SCRIPTURE READINGS (Tentative)

- May 3 Guest Speaker – Bill Lusk-Heritage Sunday  
Mark 15:33-39  
Responsive Reading—Apostles' Creed pg. 881
- May 10 I Samuel 1:21-2:11  
Proverbs 22:1-9
- May 17 Matthew 9:27-34  
Mark 7:31-37  
Luke 10:21-24  
Responsive Reading - Psalm 104 pg. 826-827
- May 24 Responsive Reading  
Canticle of Remembrance pg. 652
- May 31 Luke 10:25-37

### CALENDER OF EVENTS FOR MAY

- Fri., May 1 4-6 pm, Community Dinner –Bar-B-Q Chicken
- Sun., May 3 9:30 am, Worship – Guest Speaker – Bill Lusk  
11 am, Adult Bible Study
- Mon., May 4 6:30 pm, Choir
- Tues, May 5 10 am, Quilters-done until fall
- Wed., May 6 11 am, Bible Study  
7 pm, Trustee Meeting
- Thurs., May 7 3:45 pm, Knitters - done until fall  
7 pm, Bible Study – Les Evans home
- Sun., May 10 9:30 am, Worship – Mother's Day  
(Men's Choir – practice at 9:10 am)
- Mon., May 11 1:30 pm, SOS Bible Study
- Wed., May 13 11 am, Bible Study  
7 pm, Nurture Committee Meeting
- Thurs., May 14 7 pm, Worship Committee Meeting  
8 pm, Outreach Committee Meeting
- Sun., May 17 9:30 am, Worship  
11 am, Adult Bible Study
- Mon., May 18 7 pm, UMW Meeting
- Wed., May 20 11 am, Bible Study  
7 pm, Finance Meeting
- Thurs., May 21 7 pm, Bible Study - Les Evans home
- Sun., May 24 9:30 am, Worship  
11 am, Adult Bible Study
- Mon., May 25 Memorial Day
- Tues., May 26 10 am, Quilters - Social Room
- Wed., May 27 11 am, Bible Study
- Thurs., May 29 7 pm, Bible Study - Les Evans home
- Sat., May 30 7 am, Men's Breakfast – West's Restaurant

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!



Janelle Loomis - Mansfield High School  
Michael Wilston - Mansfield High School

Sean Baumgartner - Mansfield College  
Alesia Hagar - Millersville University  
Brian Pickney - Mansfield College  
Rachael Schrader - United Seminary

## “Getting to Know You”

Leo and Lucile Packard might be considered a romance that developed in the Methodist Church. They met in school but really got acquainted in the Methodist Youth Fellowship. On June 1<sup>st</sup> they will celebrate their 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Leo and Lucile have always lived in Tioga County, most of the time in Sullivan Township.

Leo and Lucile started coming to our church in 1971 after leaving the former Elk Run Church. Their youngest son was a friend of Reverend Richard Brenneman’s son and wanted to come to this church. Leo and Lucile became involved in Sunday School and Lucile taught the kindergarten class for several years.

Leo and Lucile felt that our church was a friendly church but they also knew quite a few of the people who attended. They have been involved in small group studies. Lucile taught in Vacation Bible School and participated in United Methodist Women. Leo has served as a trustee at various times, and he is a handy man who makes repairs at the church. Lucile, of course, is the current church treasurer.

Leo worked as an auto mechanic at Cole and Burd and all of the previous owners for 57 years. Lucile worked in the church office as secretary-treasurer for several years. Leo’s favorite hobby is woodworking and he has made a lot of furniture for family and friends. He also made the stand which is by the phone off the kitchen. Lucile’s favorite thing is bookkeeping so she enjoys being church treasurer. Lucile also enjoys reading and helping Leo finish some of the woodworking pieces.

Leo and Lucile say they have been United Methodists all their lives even before it was United Methodist. Between them they have attended church in Covington, Elk Run, Mainesburg and Mansfield.

Along with all this, Leo and Lucile raised five children – four boys and a girl. Except for their daughter who moved to Wisconsin a few years ago, the rest of the family is not too far away.

Their vision for the church is that we would again have Sunday School or small groups for all ages as well as an active youth fellowship. After all, you never know who you might meet in youth fellowship.

## COMMUNITY DINNER

Friday, May 1, 2009 from 4 pm – 6 pm  
Cost - \$8.00

First United Methodist Church  
Mansfield, PA 16933

Bar-B-Q Chicken, Macaroni Salad  
Baked Beans, Tossed Salad  
Dessert Bar, Beverage

You are invited to a  
**Retirement Celebration**  
in Honor of  
**Rev. James T. Dawes**

**Sunday, June 28, 2009**  
**3:00 PM - 6:30 PM**

First United Methodist Church  
Hershey, PA 17033

If you are interested in attending this celebration, please contact the church office. There will be further details as the event gets closer.



## Helper List for May 2009

May 2009 Helpers	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Greeters	Les & Betty Evans	Ben & Lois Garrison	Jim & Dot Colegrove	Joyce & Lloyd Colegrove	Rich & Jane McGee
Acolytes					
Liturgists	Jane Montague		Jane Mudge	Ed Montague	Joyce Taylor
Altar Flowers	Jim & Dot Colegrove	Oliver Bartlett	The Rumsey's	Memorial Day Flowers	Rosalie Connelly
Refreshments for Coffee Hour	The Colegrove's	Not until Sept.	Not until Sept.	Not until Sept.	Not until Sept.
Cleaning Donation	Barbara Rundell	Ellen Wise	Peggy Groff	Farrer's	Graver's
Nursery					

### WELLSBORO DISTRICT MISSION CENTRAL HUB

The Wellsboro District Mission Central HUB celebrated their one year birthday on Sunday, April 26th. The new HUB is located in the Methodist Center behind the Westfield United Methodist Church, 158 Church St., Westfield.

They have asked that the Mansfield Cluster, which includes us, to supply materials for the school kits.

The school kits include:

- 200-250 sheets of ruled paper
- 1 pair blunt scissors
- 1 thirty centimeter ruler
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener with two holes or a well
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers (plain colors only)
- 1-2 and ½" pencil eraser
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 cloth bag with handles

If you can help supply any of these items, please bring them to the church and we will see that HUB receives them.

### HAVEN OF TIOGA COUNTY

HAVEN of Tioga County is starting a flower fundraiser sale just in time for Mother's Day. Through prevention and intervention services, HAVEN strives to reduce domestic and sexual violence right here in Tioga County. With your help, they are hoping to raise money to continue the services of helping and educating everybody.

You can help by purchasing beautiful potted flowers for your loved one. The beautiful plants they are selling are: Standard Geraniums, Wave Petunias (in various colors) and Sunscape Daisies (color not guaranteed). Each plant costs just \$5.00 and will be delivered just in time for Mother's Day. All orders must be turned into HAVEN of Tioga County by **Thursday, April 30th** to ensure the delivery by May 7. The flowers can be picked up from HAVEN of Tioga County after **1 pm on Thursday, May 7**. All the proceeds will go to continue the work of eliminating Domestic & Sexual Abuse in Tioga County.

### Wellsboro District Mini-Camp at His Thousand Hills

**July 19-22, 2009;** "How God Used Kids" for children who have completed grades 4-12. The cost is \$145 (\$140 if you register by May 1.) There will be rope courses, field games, Volleyball, basketball, skating, camp fires and more. Electives are being offered again this year.

**Camp counselors are still needed.** Four large rings (like hula hoops), pumpkin cutters, water hose, someone to set up a scavenger hunt and two more breakout leaders are also needed. For more information or a registration form, please contact Mrs. Sharon Haskins; [sharonh@zitomedian.net](mailto:sharonh@zitomedian.net) or 814-274-8360.

## WHY GO TO CHURCH!

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and give me the strength I needed to do my work.

If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!" When you are DOWN to nothing...God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment.

## HISTORY MOMENT

Chester Bailey

Hymns come of age.

It was the Wesley Brothers, John and Charles, who early in the 18th century along with contemporary writer, Isaac Watts, who early in the 18th century set out to change worshippers' views of hymnody. They were not only the founders of Methodism, but they insisted on hymns, both words and music, should be written to stir the congregation, re-enforce its Religious emotions and play on the "feel good" factor.

The Wesley's made hymns the central feature of Methodist worship, and before long many people began to admire the Methodists for their hearty and fervent singing. The qualities of sincerity and conviction were a vital part of the Wesley's approach and congregations responded with vigor and enthusiasm. So powerful was the surges that many were attracted away from the established church into Methodism.

A number of forward looking Church of England clergymen began to see the need for a music revival in their own church, but the Anglicans resisted the introduction of evangelical style hymns because they were still wedded to the metrical psalm - the music embodiment of Scripture.

The matter came to a head in Sheffield, England in 1819 when Vicar Thomas Cotterill imposed Methodist style hymnody on his congregation. The people rebelled and took him to the Diocesan Consistory Court. The case was heard by Chancellor of the Diocese of York, who in a typical Anglican compromise, concluded that both hymns and metrical psalms were illegal in Anglican liturgy but, because their use was widespread, he did not feel able to enforce his decision.

This opened the floodgates to all manner of hymns - including Gospel Hymns and coupled with the pioneering work of Watts and the Wesley's, laid the foundation of Anglican hymnody as we know it today.

Ref: [www.music-for-church-choirs.com/hymns.html](http://www.music-for-church-choirs.com/hymns.html)

## Change in Church Office Hours

Summer Office Hours for Secretary  
beginning May 1:

Monday 9 am-3:30 pm  
Tuesday off  
Wednesday 9 am-3:30 pm  
Thursday 9 am-3 pm  
Friday off

Mary Lou  
Church Secretary

Enjoy your holiday and remember those who gave so much for us!





First United Methodist Church  
67 E. Wellsboro Street  
Mansfield, Pennsylvania 16933  
E-mail: firumc@ptd.net  
Telephone: (570) 662-2411  
Dining Room: (570) 662-7719

**Address Service Requested**



*This Newsletter is sent with a  
blessing and a prayer to...*

Brighten the Church Grounds with Flowers to **Celebrate Memorial Day**

We invite you to honor or remember your loved ones by purchasing plants for the Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> Worship service. If you wish to participate in this beautification project, please fill out the form below with your name and the names of those being honored/remembered. The cost will be \$7.50 for each name to be honored or memorialized. Send the form along with the payment to the church office, F.U.M.C., 67 E. Wellsboro Street, Mansfield, PA 16933 by Wednesday, May 20th.

**Checks payable: Kuhl's Flowers**

These flowers will be used to brighten our church grounds.  
Anyone wishing to help plant them may contact Betsy Kuhl at 662-3223

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*Memorial Day Flowers*

*In Memory of* \_\_\_\_\_

*In Honor of* \_\_\_\_\_

*By* \_\_\_\_\_

## Celebrations!

On Sunday, April 12th we celebrated Easter and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Two weeks later, on April 26, we had another celebration— Consecration Sunday! This was a celebration of our financial commitment to the ministries of this church as we attempt to share with others the story of Easter and how thankful we are that God loves us.

Consecration Sunday provided a means in which everyone could make a **prayerful financial commitment** to the ministries of our church. Following the Sunday morning worship service a **celebration brunch** was served to everyone—no one from the church family had to be in the kitchen cooking or cleaning up.

## The Many Ways You Give!

People who contribute to the church have several ways to designate where their monies will be placed.

The first category is “**Church Expense**”—which is used to support the day-to-day operations of the church, such as salaries, utilities, ministry programs, parsonage, office expenses, etc.

The second category is “**Missions**” — which is used to pay our *shares of ministry* to the Conference. The *shares of ministry* are used in many different ways to support our Methodist denomination.

The third category is “**Other**” — which is a way to designate specifically how you want your contribution to be used such as, Good Samaritan Fund, Food Pantry, One Great Hour of Sharing, Memorial Garden, etc.

The most recent report that was sent out to individuals provided information **only** about giving towards “Church Expense”. It did not include contributions made towards “Missions” or church cleaning, lawn mowing, etc. In January a report was sent to individuals that identified all their contributions for 2008. If you would like an updated report, please call the church office, 662-2411.

## *We have stepped up in our faithfulness!*

The focus during the past two months has been about faithfulness — God’s faithfulness to us and our faithfulness to God.

The report from our financial secretary shows that the people in our church have increased their “Estimate of Giving” for this next year.

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

Many people who were not able to be here on Consecration Sunday have mailed their Estimate of Giving card to the church office. A more complete report will be provided at a later date.

### Thank You

Thank you to everyone  
who participated in our  
Consecration Sunday Celebration!

- Thank you for making a financial commitment to the ministries of our church,
- Thank you to the Church Council for taking the leadership role in this program. And thank you to the many people who assisted the council in the planning and implementation of the second year of this new stewardship process,
- Thank you to Erica Wilson and Ben & Lois Garrison for sharing their testimonies, praising God for all He has done in their lives,
- Thank you Rev. Mike Bealla (our guest leader from the Conference) for helping lead our church through this program and sharing an inspiring message during morning worship on April 26.