

# The Sampler March 2010

From the  
Pastor



## Invitation to a Christian Seder

The Worship and Planning Committee recommends that this year's Holy Week include Communion on Maundy Thursday once again. Like last year, the service will try to be even more faithful to the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. The worship service for a Christian Seder is planned for Thursday, April 1, to begin at **6:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. (The meal will start thirty minutes later than Wednesday night dinners with the hope that working parents can gather their children to participate, especially with no school the next day. This is not a potluck meal. Other than the ceremonial food, the meal will still be buffet.)

According to scripture, when he was in Jerusalem, Jesus was celebrating the Festival of Unleavened Bread or the Passover, the oldest continual human activity. The festival lasts for seven or eight days. On the first or second day of Passover, there is the ceremonial dinner called the Feast of Unleavened Bread or the Seder. That meal has become what Christians call the Last Supper.

The Seder is a Bible study passing on important Bible stories and truth using all five senses of the participants. We won't just hear the Word; we will also see, smell, taste and feel the Word. We won't just teach our children; we will involve and encourage them as they help us worship. It will embrace the ancient Jewish Seder story while adding what Jesus instructed us to do "in remembrance of me." The actual worship portion will be shorter than last year but still have much participation.

We will be celebrating the occasion on which Jesus Christ established a new agreement, a new contract between God and humanity. The celebration is about salvation **from** the Egyptians and **from** all forms of slavery, the *release of the captives*, the *liberty of those who are oppressed*, AND redemption **into** the Kingdom of God, the *recovering of sight to the blind* and the *acceptable year of the Lord*. The very first Seder Dinner presupposed the Promised Land, but the Christian Seder Dinner guarantees the Kingdom. ***Thy Kingdom Come*** is not a wish but a fact to celebrate.

This special meal is a time for the family of God to gather and focus on Jesus Christ, His dinner and His promises. In addition to companionship and physical food, we will feast on spiritual food. The Christian Seder will begin with children gathering and casting out unleavened bread representing cleansing ourselves of sins. There will be three pieces of Matzah bread as in the Jewish tradition, but as Christians we know they also represent the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Instead of a single cup of juice, there will be four cups for each person: two representing freedom from something before the meal and the two after the meal representing freedom to something. The third cup becomes for Christians the cup of the New Covenant. Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26:27-28 The final and fourth cup is the Cup of Praise when we give thanksgiving for the blessings God has given and continues to give us.

**Please call or email** the church office to add your family to the group celebrating this important time in the community of faith. While it is something different, this event will be fun as well as educational.

*Pastor Barb*



### spotlight on Youth Emily Pownell

Emily Pownell is a six- year- old first grader at Romney Elementary School. Everything is her favorite thing about school—she likes school! Outside school, Emily is very active. She is a homemaker in the making—Emily does dishes, helps with the laundry, and straightens her room. She even feeds her dog, which, according to Emily, is one wild collie! It’s not all work for Emily—she finds time to ride her bike, rake leaves, swing on the swing, and even go down the slide in the snow! Her little sister Sarah has one terrific role model. When not helping out at home, Emily goes to dancing and gymnastics at Expressions—be sure to look for her at her recitals at Hampshire High School. She belongs to 4-H. At her 4-H meetings she

loves singing songs and making Halloween and Christmas cards for those who are homebound. Emily is also extremely active at Romney Presbyterian Church. She hands out bulletins when she serves as a greeter, she sings in the Youth Choir, she collects for 4-cents-a meal, and she takes part in many special events. November 29<sup>th</sup> Emily, a member of Mrs. Cindy Nester’s Sunday School class, participated in the Lighting of the Advent Candle for the first Sunday in Advent. Again December 13<sup>th</sup> she assisted Mrs. Gayle Allen’s Sunday School class in their Lighting of the Advent Candle for the third week of Advent. December 13<sup>th</sup> was a busy day for Emily; she also participated in the Sunday School Christmas Program. She not only sang in the Youth Choir, but she also performed in “The Tiny Snowflake” skit in which she played two roles: the Slick snowflake whom God created especially to make the snow slippery and the Happy Snowflake whom God created especially to provide hours of fun for kids at play. Hats off to Emily, our youth in the spotlight, who certainly brings much happiness to all of us at Romney Presbyterian Church!

### Congratulations

to Tim and Marea Wolenski Hagedorn on the birth of their son, Kayden James Hagedorn on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is doing fine—even the proud grandparents, Dennis and Sandra Wolenski.

and

To Lauren Brandon Lindsey and the West Virginians for being selected to perform at Carneigne Hall in New York.



*The church family extends their sympathy to the family of Charles Herriott who went to be with the Lord on February 14, 2010.*



In memory of Madeline Blue from Anne S. Whitefield,  
In memory of Charles Herriott from Bill and Betty Parker, M.J. Vorbach, Hampshire County Farm Bureau,  
Vida Simon, Gregory and Jane McBride, Norwood Haines, Bill and Dot Calvert.



If you would like to place an Easter Lily in the church, in memory or in honor of a loved one, please notify the church office by Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. The price is \$10.00 each.

2010 SOUPER BOWL TOTAL - 2,123.50

**Designated Giving 2009**

Account	Amount Received
4 cents a meal	\$ 1,516.08(January-September )
Blankets	\$ 230.00
Christmas Food Boxes	\$ 4,899.96
Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 442.00
Mother's/Father's Day	\$ 318.00
Peacemaking Offering	\$ 303.44
Pentecost	\$ 306.00
Souper Bowl	\$ 1,320.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 120.00
Heifer Project	\$ 1,664.68
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 308.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,418.16</b>

**Treasurer To Date Snapshot**

**January-December 2009**

Total Income \$110,810.47  
 Total Expenses \$124,084.90  
 Net Loss \$ 13,274.43

**January 2010**

Account Balances  
 Money Market - \$ 13,274.45  
 Now Account - \$ 28,208.16

**Plant the Right Seeds**

- If you plant **honesty**, you will reap **trust**.
- If you plant **goodness**, you will reap **friends**.
- If you plant **humility**, you will reap **greatness**.
- If you plant **perseverance**, you will reap **contentment**.
- If you plant **consideration**, you will reap **perspective**.
- If you plant **hard work**, you will reap **success**.
- If you plant **forgiveness**, you will reap **reconciliation**.
- If you plant **faith in Christ**, you will reap a **harvest**.

*"I have planted...God gave the increase." 1 Corinthians 3:6*

**Easter Sunday Sunrise Service**  
**April 4, 2009**  
**7:00 a.m.**



**Romney Presbyterian Church**

*Romney Presbyterian Church*  
100 West Rosemary Lane  
Romney, WV 26757-1632

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Romney, WV 26757

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**March 2010** 

Return Service Requested