

The Sampler March 2011

From the
Pastor



Breaking Bread Together

I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. *1 Corinthians 10:15-17*

At the February fellowship meal, the new tables were moved into a connected U so all seemed to be seated at one table. It reminded me of several family holiday meals where the main table could not hold everyone so a card table was stuck here and a tv table there with everyone sitting all together. The February Fellowship Dinner table arrangement spontaneously occurred because there were so few people who attended that particular meal. Everyone seemed to enjoy the new arrangement.

The Christian Education Committee has moved the Potluck Fellowship Dinner in March one week earlier than traditional – to **Wednesday, March 9** – to coincide with **Ash Wednesday**. Because the Ash Wednesday Service needs to occur at 6:30 so choir can start at 7, the dinner is to begin at 5:30 instead of 6. For those who cannot make it at 5:30, come whenever you can. There should still be some of the pot luck food left in addition to whatever you bring. The important food – feeding the soul with companionship and friendly interaction – will still be available in abundance.

The liturgical season of Lent begins on March 9, Ash Wednesday. Lent is the time of year to purge whatever gets in the way of following God into the new resurrection reality of Christ. It is a time for serious individual reflection as well as a time of solemn assembly. Repentance is a key discipline of this holy season which culminates with the glorious celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30 pm includes the imposition of ashes, if desired, as a symbol of repentance. The ashes will put on the forehead in the sign of the cross.

The Worship and Planning Committee recommended that this year's Holy Week include Communion on Maundy Thursday once again. Like last year, the worship service for a **Christian Seder** is planned for Thursday, April 21, to begin at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is not a potluck meal. Other than the ceremonial food, the meal will still be buffet.

So during the coming months there will two special occasions to break bread together, both focusing on worship, one with communion. This extended family of Christian believers will be celebrating the connections and joys of God's blessings.

God is constantly trying to do a new thing for us, with us, through us. Only when we let go of what we already have will we have room to receive. Just think of it in terms of our grasp. If we're wrapped tightly around something – mentally or physically – we can't reach out to something new. By letting go, by taking a step back, we can get clarity about what is truly real and valuable in our lives for ourselves and for our service to and with Jesus. By letting go, we will also be inviting the Spirit to fill us with something new.

A physical way of letting go is being planned for the first Sunday in Lent, March 13. You will be able to write down something to let go of, attach it to a helium balloon and watch it go floating off. So instead of depriving yourself during Lent, give yourself the gift of enrichment. Let go – mentally or physically – of something and be open to what God has for you, including breaking bread together.

Pastor Barb

NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Romney Presbyterian Church session held its stated meeting on Monday, February 14th. Following is a summary of business conducted by the session:

- The church will provide \$150.00 for materials to Beth Herriott in support of the Faith Community Nurse Ministry.
- The Commitment and Witness Committee budgeted \$2,000 for Missionary Support to be distributed April 2011.
- The Commitment and Witness Committee budgeted \$6,000 Per Capita/Shared Mission support to be distributed in March and October.
- Special offerings for 2011 were scheduled: One Great Hour of Sharing – 4/24; Fathers/Mothers Day – 5/8; Pentecost – 6/12; Blanket Sunday – 9/18; Peacemaking – 10/02; Thanksgiving (Davis-Stuart) 11/20; Christmas Joy – 12/18. (Note: There will be a “Moment for Mission” the Sunday prior to each special offering.)
- A discussion was held about having another outdoor church service at St. Luke Chapel, followed by a picnic lunch. No date was set, but many agreed it should be held before it gets too hot this summer.
- The committee decided to move “Passing the Peace” in the worship service, to follow the choir’s anthem.
- The church will hold a worship service on Ash Wednesday on March 9 at 6:30 p.m., following a fellowship dinner. The dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m.
- There will be a Christian Seder Service meal with Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 21, at 6:00 p.m.
- Communion has been planned for the following dates: February 27, April 21, May 1, August 7, October 2, and November 27
- \$500.00 from the Sunday School account was donated to Souper Bowl of Caring.
- Confirmation Classes are being held for the following middle school students: Danielle Slocum, Evan Staley, Britt Dolly, John Carl Mayfield and Abbie Nester.
- May 22nd will be Senior Recognition for Lindsay Whetzel, Amy Maphis, and Hannah York.
- Fellowship Dinners will be held: February 16th – Traditional Wednesday Meal, March 9th - Along with Ash Wednesday service, April 21st – Maundy Thursday Christian Seder Service meal and May 15th - following Confirmation Sunday (after service)
- John Mason is heading the “Sponsor a Folding Padded Metal Chair” project. Mr. Mason is asking church members to purchase chairs at \$22.00 each. An interest survey will be distributed to the membership to see if the goal of fifty (50) chairs can be met.
- A huge thank you to elder Billy Pownell for the outstanding job he did in creating a metal cover for the church heat pump!!!

Treasurer To Date Snapshot January 2011

Total Income	\$11,750.25	Account Balances	
Total Expenses	\$ 3,193.09	Now Account -	\$21,239.14
Net Income	8,557.16		

Will **YOU** Sponsor A Folding Padded Metal Chair?

Each chair is approximately \$22—not payable until we reach a goal of 50 commitments for the chairs

Pick a number that fits you financial commitment

1	2	3	4	_____ Chairs
\$22	\$44	\$66	\$88	_____ Total

*Please fill out this form and hand it into the office so that we can get a count for the goal of 50 chairs. After we have the goal count, please make your check payable to RCP with the memo line indicating: chairs

If you pay in cash please put your name on the envelope.

Name _____ Telephone No. _____

Project Coordinator: John Mason
(304) 492-5641

If you cannot bring this form to the church,
please call the office 304-822-5083
or email office@romneypresbyterianchurch.org
your sponsor commitment.

January 31, 2011

Dear Jane Wright and Commitment and Witness Committee,

Happy New Year! This is an exciting time of year for me because I have another year before me to learn new things, set new goals and bring them to fruition. This year, 2011, is providing me the opportunity to step out and move forward on a journey I started last May when I attended the Faith Community Nurse education. This education has added a new dimension to my nursing and allows me to do things I previously have not done.

I am excited and looking forward to moving the Faith Community Nursing (FCN) ministry forward here at the Romney Presbyterian Church (RPC) in 2011. Faith Community Nursing is a healing ministry dealing with the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of the congregation. The seven roles of a Faith Community Nurse as identified by the International Parish Nurses Association are health promotion and education, health counseling, referral services, volunteer coordinator, support group developer, advocacy and integration of faith and health. In preparation for starting this committee and ministry, I have done a congregational survey to determine the wants and needs of the congregation of the Romney Presbyterian Church and reviewed the congregational survey done prior to the hiring of Pastor Barb.

The things I would like this committee to accomplish in 2011 are:

- Blood pressure checks at the monthly coffee hour. Blood pressure cuffs have been purchased.
- Medication education as needed along with the blood pressure check.
- Provide education to groups in the church at their request, i.e. Sunday School classes, Presbyterian Women, Bible Study Group, covered dish dinner, etc. on health topics.
- Initiate a yearly Health Fair for our congregation with the long-term goal of expanding this to include congregations of other churches in our area.
- Send birthday cards, anniversary cards, get well cards and cards of encouragement to members of our congregation.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to develop this ministry within the church. I am looking forward to many great things happening in the future.

In Christian love,

Beth A. Herriott, R.N., CDE, FCN

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH Kaitlyn Hartman, daughter of Alana and Pat Hartman, is a current first grader at Romney Elementary School. Physical Education is her favorite class; but she is also fond of recess and, more importantly, Mrs. Cacapardo's class, which focuses on such scientific forms as bugs and rocks! Outside school, Kaitlyn and her sister Jocelyn attend tumbling class at Expressions, where Kaitlyn's favorite exercise is "candlestick rollups." In the fall of 2010 she began attending 4-H, and as a Cloverbud she has had great fun using pine cones, peanut butter, and seeds to make a bird feeder. In addition to 4-H, Kaitlyn has a new interest—piano. She even plays without consulting the sheet music! One of these days, she would like to share her talent with the members of Romney Presbyterian Church by playing "Away in a Manger." Kaitlyn is a huge contributor to our church: she serves as a greeter with her mom and sister; she helps collect for 4 cents a meal; and she works diligently on the projects in Mrs. Baker's Sunday School class (especially learning the Lord's Prayer). In addition, Kaitlyn played the part of a bunny in the "Finding a Christmas Tree" skit of the 2010 Christmas Program; and in the summer of 2010 she painted scenery for her mom's "High Seas" Vacation Bible School class. Her artwork included a pelican perched on a stand and covered in seaweed, a sky and ocean backdrop, and various port-hole pictures. As far as the future is concerned, Kaitlyn hopes to use her background in 4-H and her love of science to work with domestic and wild animals throughout North America. Hats off to Kaitlyn Hartman, our Youth in the Spotlight!



Opequon Presbyterian Church in Winchester invites everyone to the lecture "**Colonial Presbyterians in the Shenandoah Valley**" with Dr. John Fea Associate Professor of American History Messiah College, Grantham, Pa on Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY
SPRING GATHERING

APRIL 9, 2011

Compassion Kindness Humility Gentleness Patience

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." Colossians 3: 12-14

*"The Ultimate
Makeover"*

**Living the Word Through Lent
Lenten Lunch 12:00 noon
First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall**

- March 9 - First United Methodist Church – Speaker Dr. Roy Knight
March 16 - Ebenezer United Methodist Church – Rev. Kenneth Caplinger
March 23 - Our Lady of Grace – Larry Hammel
March 30 - Church of the Nazarene – Ron DiCiollia
April 6 - First Baptist Church – Jack Hanks
April 13 - Romney Assembly of God – Jim Mou
April 20 - Romney Presbyterian Church – Rev. Barbara R. Johnson

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

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**The Sampler
March 2011**



Return Service Requested