



# Christ Church Communicator

*“Love God, Love People, Make Disciples for Jesus Christ”*

## JANZ’S JOURNEY – March 2010

As I write these words we are walking the Lenten journey for the third time as pastor and people. Much has happened since July of 2007, not the least of which is a lot more people active in our life together now! Average worship attendance when our time together began was about 260 people. For the first six weeks of 2010, our average attendance is approximately 350. This increase in numbers is also seen in every dimension of our life together: children’s ministry, youth ministry, adult discipleship, outreach ministries, staff, music ministry...and the list could go on and on. All of the new folks and new ministries have stretched our facility and our available parking space to the max – a WONDERFUL challenge to have! – but a challenge none-the-less.

About a year ago I called together a “Long Range Planning Team” to begin looking at future ministry and facility expansion options. After many lengthy, prayer-filled meetings, the team presented a proposal for building expansion to a called Charge Conference in January. The need for more facility was unanimously affirmed; and a building committee was elected and has been hard at work on the details of the expansion plan, including possible property purchases, drawings for the new facility, and how all of this will be funded. When this detail work is complete, a Church Conference will be called and EVERY PERSON IN THE CHURCH FAMILY will be offered an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas.

***Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.***  
  
***Psalm 127:1***

If the plan is approved by the Church Conference, the building project will move forward. The conversations about ministry expansion will continue as well, looking at how we can faithfully live out our purpose of *loving God, loving people, and making disciples for Jesus Christ* in new and creative ways. Your input is welcome and encouraged here too! Any member of our leadership team is ready and willing to listen and dialogue about what the Lord may be saying to you about any aspect of our life together.

What can you do NOW, during these days of detail and design work? PRAY, sisters and brothers, PRAY. Pray for every person on the building committee, every person on our leadership team, every member of our staff. Psalm 127:1 says, *“Unless the LORD builds the house, its builder’s labor in vain.”* There are many things we COULD build – we want to

The conversation about ministry plans will continue ..., looking at how we can faithfully live out our purpose of *loving God, loving people, and making disciples for Jesus Christ.*

build what GOD WANTS us to build. Faithful, persistent prayer will keep us open to what God says so that we can follow where God leads.

As we approach our third Easter together, know that I am more blessed and excited than I can say to be one of your pastors!

Life and ministry in Franklin is so much fun! ..can’t wait to see where the Lord will take us next!

As always...Keep Lookin’ Up!

*Pastor David*

# Jesus Is Your Way

Jesus said, "This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John 17:3)

The essence of eternal life is to know God and to know Jesus Christ, whom He has sent.

Jesus said, "If have come that they may have life and have it to the full." (John 10:10)

Knowing God does not come through a program or a method. Real Christianity is not merely a religion; it is a relationship with a Person. It is an intimate love relationship with God. Through this relationship, God reveals His will and invites you to join Him where He is at work through your life.

Henry Blackaby





**WAY**  
*I a m t h e*

**TRUTH**  
*a n d t h e*

**WINE**  
*a n d t h e*

J o h n 1 4 : 6

# March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 SPRC 6:30 pm	2 Even Start 9:30 am "Make Me a Blessing" 11:30 am Women's Fellowship 6:30 pm	3 Ministers Forum 12:00 pm M.S. Support Group 5:30 pm Prayer Group 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	4 Even Start 9:30 am "Experiencing God" 6:30 pm	5	6
7  Confirmation Class Field Trip 12:00 pm	8 Trustees 6:00 pm Women's Steering Team 6:30 pm	9 (Pastor David at ←) Even Start 9:30 am Galatian Girls @ 10:00 am Bonnie Corbett's Finance Team 7:00 pm	10 Continuing Education Prayer Group 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:45 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	11 Conference Knotty Ladies 9:00 am Even Start 9:30 am "Experiencing God" 6:30 pm	12 (Goodwill Class ←) →	13 Retreat 
14 (Goodwill Class Retreat) → NEW MEMBERS SUNDAY S.W.A.T. 12:30 pm	15 Church Council 6:30 pm	16 Even Start 9:30 am "Make Me a Blessing" 11:30 am Rebecca Circle 7:00 pm	17 "Healthy Church Finance Event" 6:30 pm Prayer Group 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	18 Even Start 9:30 am Sr. Day Luncheon 11:30 am "Experiencing God" 6:30 pm	19 "Bag Ladies" 9:00 am	20 7:29 Out by 9:00 Breakfast Heritage Hall in Use (Bridal Shower)
21 H. Hall in Use 2:00—5:00 pm S.W.A.T. 5:30 pm	22 Missions Team 6:30 pm Staff Mtg. Retreat 5:00 pm	23 Even Start 9:30 am Galatian Girls @ 10:00 am Lou Shearer's Meals on Wheels 12:30 pm	24 Even Start Banquet 5:00 pm Prayer Group 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:45 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	25 Even Start 9:30 am "Experiencing God" 6:30 pm	26 Youth Tour 9:00 am Bethany House & Conf. Cntr.  Heritage Hall 5:00—7:00 pm	27 Heritage Hall in Use by Agape Class
28 PALM SUNDAY  S.W.A.T. 5:30 pm	29	30 Even Start 9:30 am	31 Prayer Group 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm			



- |   |                                 |    |  |    |  |
|---|---------------------------------|----|--|----|--|
| 1 | Hope Sires<br>Damian Sires      | 10 | Grace Harbaugh<br>Helen Yarnell        | 22 | Phillip Lomio<br>Betsy Updegrave               |
| 3 | Bev Lehman<br>Emily McGill      | 11 | Mattie Motter<br>Veronica Wolkan       | 24 | Caden Hagg<br>Colleen Holtz<br>Scott McMasters |
| 4 | Jen Cozad<br>Jackie Ekis        | 12 | Gladys Cross                           | 26 | Ben Hoover<br>Bethany Wagner                   |
| 5 | Shelley Davis                   | 15 | Nick Swatzler                          | 27 | Jenny Lehman<br>Kim Wagner                     |
| 6 | Catherine Richey<br>Kye Winslow | 16 | Janice Pyle<br>Dave Shearer            | 29 | Dorothy Infield<br>Ken Yarnell                 |
| 7 | Don Anderson<br>Joyce Greenlee  | 18 | Logan Baker<br>Laura Moore<br>Dick Way | 30 | Shelly Fiscus<br>Terry Springer                |
| 8 | Halei Salenas                   | 21 | Rachel Anderson<br>Chris Garmong       | 31 | Zachary Harbaugh<br>Peg Jolley                 |
| 9 | Rick Goldsmith                  |    |  |    |  |



- |    |  |    |                   |    |                    |
|----|--|----|-------------------|----|--------------------|
| 13 | Scott & Debbie Walters                           | 22 | Bill & Pat Powell | 26 | Bob & Sandra Agnew |
| 16 | Jim & Camilla Anderson<br>Lynn & Kathy McMasters | 25 | Jim & Betsy Foy   | 28 | Dick & Tish Way    |



# Proud of Our Troops!

We wish to collect information on all active-duty military. Please complete the following and place it in the offering plate by Sunday, March 21.



---

Military Person Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Biography (example: Joe is in the Army stationed in Iraq. He is a medic with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne. He is expected to return home in six months.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Bob McVay with any questions: 814/437.6654, [rmcvay@pa.rr.com](mailto:rmcvay@pa.rr.com)

# Veterans! Thank you for your service to our country.



We wish to update our listing of veterans. Please complete the information below and place it in the offering plate by Sunday, March 21.

Name of Veteran \_\_\_\_\_

Military Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Era of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of job you held (role you played) while in uniform:

---

---

---

---

Again, thank you for your service. Please contact Bob McVay with any questions. 814/437.6654, [rmcvay@pa.rr.com](mailto:rmcvay@pa.rr.com)

# UPMC Northwest Cancer Support Group & I Can Cope Classes

“I know that few Sundays go by without another member of our congregation being affected by the diagnosis of cancer one way or another. Support groups offer both information and emotional support from people who are going through the same difficulties.”

-- Joyce Schwab RN, UPMC Cancer Center at Clarion Hospital

## **Reaching Out to Others for Strength**

---

---

All meetings are held in Conference Rooms A & B on the first floor of UPMC Northwest on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM.

### 1010 Meeting Dates

January 19	July 20
February 16	August 17
March 16	September 21
April 20	October 19
May 18	November 16
June 15	December 21

Patients and their loved ones are welcome to attend this free class/group! No registration is required. Special speakers are featured each month, and there is always time for open discussion.

Questions may be directed to Joyce Schwab RN OCN of the UPMC Cancer Center at Clarion Hospital @814.226.8551.



## *Vacation Bible School* **2010**

Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> –  
Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup>  
6:00 pm – 8:35 pm

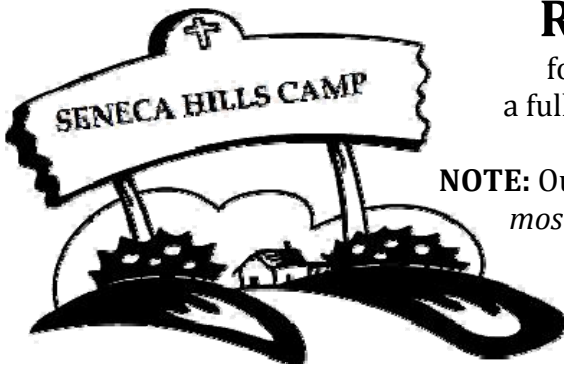
As of the first week in March, VBS week will be only **17 weeks** away! So get yourself ready to explore the mighty love of God at...

### **High Seas Expedition!**

In 2009, we recruited 85 volunteers to help during the week of VBS and every volunteer had a job that was *extremely important* to the success of the week. Because of the large number of children we ministered to last year, we anticipate the need for as many or more helping hands. So please take notice of the week and if possible, please pencil VBS on your calendar so you can help us minister to these children.

Also, please put this year's program on your prayer list. Pray that God will send us children with whom we can share "the mighty love of God!" In addition, pray for each volunteer that God is preparing for service in this ministry.

Thank you!



## Register before April 1, 2010

for Seneca Hills Bible Camp and receive \$15.00 off a full week of camp and \$5.00 off a partial week of camp.

**NOTE:** Our church will pay *half* the cost of camp, up to \$100.00 for most Bible camps. For more information, please contact Laurie or Patty at 432-3019.

Dear Christ United Methodist Church,

Community Services of Venango County would like to thank you for your donation of toothbrushes and toothpaste. We appreciate your contribution. Thank you for understanding that the battle against poverty seems to get worse every year. Without your support we would be unable to help so many.

On behalf of those who benefit from your generosity, thank you.

Sincerely,

Community Services of Venango County



*I would like to thank my church family for their prayers and cards while I was recovering from surgery. It meant so much to me. May God bless you as He did me. – Louise Bacher*

# TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY

If God asked you to be the person He wanted to use to provide transportation for someone so they could come to church and hear the message of salvation or help them develop a more personal relationship with Jesus, **WHAT WOULD YOUR ANSWER BE?**



Jesus asked the disciples to leave everything and follow him – He’s just asking a few of us to drive a couple miles out of the way to show love! Remember, YOU could be one who could make an ETERNAL difference in someone’s life simply by providing a ride to church!

At this time we have **2** young women, each with a child, who wants to come to church. We have been fairly successful in getting several people to do this; but we see the need for a more structured MINISTRY...as we grow and reach out.

WOULD YOU be interested in hearing more about this ministry and perhaps be able to do this 1x/mo or every other month?

**KEY POINT:** Things come up and you might not always be available when it is your Sunday. We will help you find a substitute!

WE WILL HONOR ALL INDIVIDUAL PREFERANCES REGARDING: Week of the month and service time.

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Preference: \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to call Katie Aaron, 432-5993 or email [katieaaron@pa.rr.com](mailto:katieaaron@pa.rr.com)

# WOMEN



We are invited to join with other women in our church community at the Atlantic United Brethren Church for the

## ***Beth Moore simulcast, via satellite.***

In this one-day simulcast event, titled "So Long Insecurity", Beth who is a renowned Bible teacher, speaker, and writer from Atlanta, GA, will be teaching about conquering fear and doubt and how to discover the liberating confidence and security that can only be found in Christ.

Sign up sheets will be available in your church bulletin starting March 28<sup>th</sup>. You can reserve your place by making your check out to CUMC, memo: BETH MOORE, and give to Katie Aaron at the Welcome Desk or deliver to the Church Office. The Women's Steering Committee will be available starting April 4<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup> for direct sign-ups. Space is limited. Please don't wait to make your reservation.

Tickets for this event will be \$15 which will include lunch. The program starts at 10AM and is over at 4PM. Please try to arrive at 9:30AM.

- ✓ MARK YOUR CALENDER
- ✓ DON'T MISS THIS EVENT
- ✓ **April 24, 2010**

For more information, please call Katie Aaron at 432-5993 or email: [katieaaron@pa.rr.com](mailto:katieaaron@pa.rr.com)

# Attention Ladies!

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (40<sup>TH</sup> YEAR)

WDP is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. People of multiple faith denominations come together to pray for our WORLD.

The WDP service will be held on **Friday, March 5 at 7:00 pm at Rhoades Auditorium, Venango Campus, 180 W. First St., Oil City.**

There will also be “Places of Prayer” in the following locations on WDP for those not able to travel because of weather or health:

3 pm to 7 pm	Venango Campus
7 am to 3 pm	Trinity UMC – Oil City
9 am to 2 pm	St. Titus Church in Titusville
7 am to 3 pm	St. John Episcopal in Franklin

**Would you like to bake 2 dozen cookies for this event?**

For more info, please call Katie Aaron 432-5993 or email:

[katieaaron@pa.rr.com](mailto:katieaaron@pa.rr.com).

Christ United Methodist Church plans to have a number of people who will be driving to the 7PM Prayer Service at Venango Campus and will glad to provide rides for those who wish to attend but don't want to drive themselves.

Please let us know your preference:

I want to attend the World day of Prayer:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

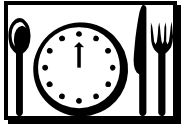
I will be glad to drive: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a ride: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

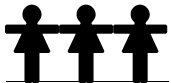


# Women's Ministry Page

## BIBLE STUDY



**MAKE ME A BLESSING BIBLE STUDY** invites you to meet with them for lunch and exploring God's Word. They meet twice a month on the first and third Tuesdays from 11:30 until 1:30 in Heritage Hall. A Beth Moore study is currently being considered. Call Lou Shearer at 814.437.2728 for information.



## GALATIAN GIRLS

This group gathers the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM in the participants' homes. They are currently studying the Book of James. Call Lou at 814.437.2728 for more information.

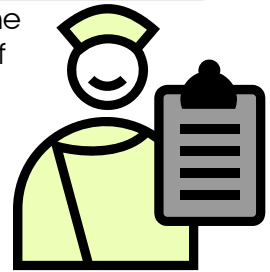


## GALATIAN GIRLS PM

This group is attending Pastor David's study, "Experiencing God" during February, March, April, and the first two weeks of May. When we resume on Tuesday nights in May, we will continue with studying books of the Bible inductively and exploring the truths in the Bible as we learn together.

## BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

are offered the last Sunday of the month before and after Sunday School.



Health record forms are provided. Watch for reminders and signs.

## REBECCA CIRCLE

Rebecca Circle meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. The Circle's focus is on missions. Contact Gerta Anderson at 432-2307 for information.

## LOVE BASKETS

Baskets are available in the women's cupboard in the kitchen for those who would like to deliver a special blessing. Please be sure to complete the log book when taking a basket. Or, call Joyce or Karen Greenlee; and they will make arrangements for the basket to be delivered.

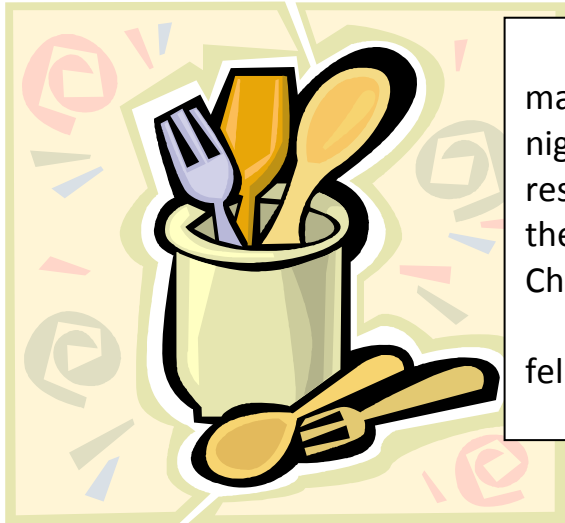
Knotty Ladies meets every second Thursday of the month at 9:00 AM at the church to tie quilts. No quilting skills are required.

You are invited! You will tie quilts for the Linus program serving children or for the Crisis Center in Oil City.

Knotty Ladies also make lap robes for the Wesbury Center for the elderly. Call Barb Lynn at 814.432.2563 if you have questions, or just drop in.

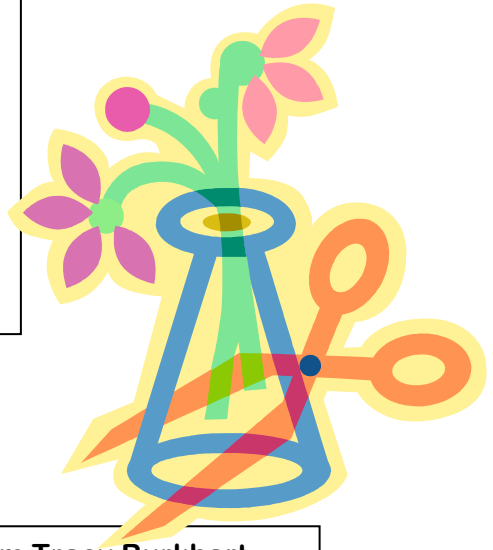
Tuesday, March 2 6:30 – 8:00 pm

KITCHEN KREATIONS AND KRAFTS



You are invited to help make soup on Tuesday night, March 2. We are restocking the freezer for the Care Ministry at Christ Church.

Don't miss this time of fellowship and ministry!



## Also

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

You will have the opportunity to learn flower arranging tricks from Tracy Burkhart. Learn how to arrange your own selection of colors and florals.

Bring:

- Container to place arrangement in (basket, bowl or vase etc)
- At least two different bundles of greens (this will be the filler)
- Flowers bunches, stems, items that match your décor
- Wire cutters if you have them

Floral foam, Spanish moss, wire and floral tape will be provided

This will be a simple fun activity to grace your home with your own talent! Sign up in the bulletin or call Shellie at 814.437.6654. See you there!



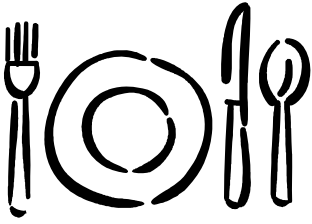
## .....Also

Bring your knitting and crocheting projects to work on!

Watch for these exciting activities during upcoming Women's Fellowship Nights:

April Style Show	May Scrapbooking & Knitting	June <i>Self-Improvement Night</i>
---------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------------

# FRIDAYS ARE FREE DINNERS



Please join this community outreach dinner. It is a time to joyfully share Christ's love with our church family and neighbors. It continues the final Friday of each month, and our next meal is March 26.

Serving is from 5:00– 7:00PM. See you there.

## ATTENTION!

All year long, personal care items are collected for the Oil City Crisis Center. This organization provides a safe place for abused women and children who sometimes come to the center without any personal possessions. Do you have small bottles of shampoo, bath gel, tubes of tooth paste? These items are greatly needed. You can leave them in the Open Door Sunday School Classroom (to the left of the Welcome Desk). Please label them to the attention of Barb Lynn.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A BAG LADY?

Please join us "bag ladies" as we sew bags for UMCOR school kits. The first "bag lady" session was held on Feb 19 from 9 to 12. We made 16 bags which will go to the Mission Barn and be filled with extra supplies. Our next date to sew will be March 19 from 9 until noon. We'd love to have you join us. The "Bag Ladies"



### Pray for Women's Ministry

*Being profoundly aware of our need for God's guidance and wisdom for His church the Women's Steering Team asks you to join us in praying for our goals: To love God, love people, and make disciples for Jesus Christ in our service as women of His church.*

**Check us out online at [christchurchfranklin.com](http://christchurchfranklin.com). See the Women's Ministry Calendar link on the front page!**

### Mark your Calendar

March 2 .....	Make Me a Blessing Bible Study
	Women's Fellowship Night, Kitchen Kreaations and Krafts
March 9 .....	Galatian Girls
March 11 .....	Knotty Ladies
March 16 .....	Rebecca Circle
	Make Me a Blessing Bible Study
March 19 .....	Bag Ladies
March 23 .....	Galatian Girls
March 26 .....	Fridays are Free Dinner
March 28 .....	Blood Pressure Screenings

**Venango Youth for Christ's  
15th Annual**

## **Ladies Good Friday Breakfast**



*Featuring: Michelle Borquez*

Michelle is a dynamic writer and speaker with a heart for the broken, the wounded, and for restoration in the body. She is the President of God Crazy Ministries. A woman of vision, Michelle is a ministry leader, television & radio personality, and mother of four. She has worked as a business consultant for George Barna, John Maxwell's INJOY, Bee Alive, American Association of Christian Counselors, Extraordinary Women, Family Restoration, and has assisted to achieve long term goals and objectives for major ministry leaders and church organizations.

In 2005 Michelle Hosted and Co-Produced **I-Life Television's 'SHINE With Michelle Borquez'** and was the **national spokesperson for Beth Moore's "Loving Well" Television Ministry Special.**

Her book "God Crazy - An Adventurous Road Trip to Joyful Surrender" was released in July, '07 and released in September 08  
"Overcoming the Seven Deadly Emotions" a guide to Emotional & Spiritual Healing.

**Friday, April 2nd, 2010 --- 7:00 AM**

(7:15 AM Breakfast will be served in the Gymnasium.)

**The Christian Life Building  
224 South Main Street Seneca**

**Advanced tickets - Individual \$16, group (10+) \$14**

**Advance program only tickets \$14**

**After 3/26/10 tickets at door for program only—\$18**

**Child care will be provided for infants through first grade at \$3 per child.**

The program will take place in the Auditorium.

Program only tickets - enter at the Auditorium entry way which is across from bus garage.

**Tickets (Program only) will be available at the entry way of the Auditorium at 7:45 am.**

Get your ticket now & bring a friend.

Send a self addressed, stamped envelope along with your check made out to:

Venango Youth for Christ  
and send to P.O. Box 27, Seneca, PA 16346

Be sure to specify if Childcare is needed.

Questions? Call 814-677-7013 or email [venyfc@zoominternet.net](mailto:venyfc@zoominternet.net)

## PENN STATE UNIVERSITY CHOIR COMING TO FIRST UM CHURCH

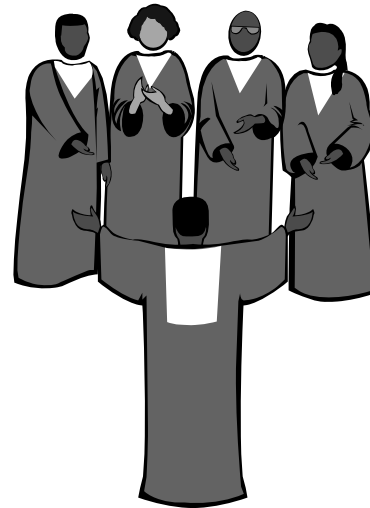
The Penn State University Choir is coming to the First United Methodist Church on Liberty Street in Franklin to present a Concert at 7:30 PM on March 24, 2010. Please announce this to your congregation and especially to your choir.

There will be no admission charge and everyone is encouraged to attend. It will be a delightful musical experience.

We hope many of your congregation will join us for this special evening.

Thank You.

Priscilla Rexford, Event Coordinator



We are looking for persons to host a choir member/s that evening. You would need to take them to your home after the Concert, provide a bed, breakfast in the morning and return them to the Church by 7:30 AM Thursday morning.

If you are able to be a host, please contact Priscilla Rexford (437-6359), Mary Ann Richardson (432-3329) or the First United Methodist Church (432-8161).



***When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am? They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’***

***“But what about you,” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.”***

*Matthew 16:13-17*



# Christ Church Communicator

*"Love God, Love People, Make Disciples for Jesus Christ"*

---

Christ United Methodist Church  
PO Box 1151  
1135 Buffalo Street  
Franklin PA 16323  
[Christchurchfranklin.com](http://Christchurchfranklin.com)  
[office@christchurchfranklin.com](mailto:office@christchurchfranklin.com)



## **WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER GROUP**

Join the Wednesday evening prayer group that meets  
Wednesdays at 6:15 PM for an hour of singing,  
sharing, and praying together.